

FREE

Kent on Sunday

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Mid Edition No 623



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Triennial's gold rush

Bullion buried on beach as town hopes for art's healing hands

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Farage set for tough fight

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Art's healing hand returns as it sparks coastal gold rush

FOR many, the definition and power of a piece of art is that it stimulates debate. Does it make you stop and stare? Does it make you discuss it with friends and family? Does it stay with you?

Of course, many see art simply as the ability to draw a good, life-like picture. But art is so much broader than that and getting your head around that aspect is just one of the challenges.

For example, does burying 30 pieces of gold on a beach and telling people to dig for it at low tide actually constitute art?

Many were chewing that over this week as artist Michael Sailstorfer unveiled a work he entitled Folkestone Digs. His act made the beach a remarkable buzz of family and friends seeking a sliver of gold in a convivial atmosphere. It's hard not to hail it as an impressive,



Editor **Chris Britcher**

living, breathing, evolving piece of art which, given the pieces may never be found, could last for ever.

Whatever your view on art, it got people talking and interested.

But art's power extends far beyond that, of course. You underestimate it at your peril. As the Turner Contemporary in Margate has proved, it can be a catalyst for regeneration. And the anticipation of the Folkestone Triennial - which the beach gold was for - demonstrates what an impact it can have on an area.

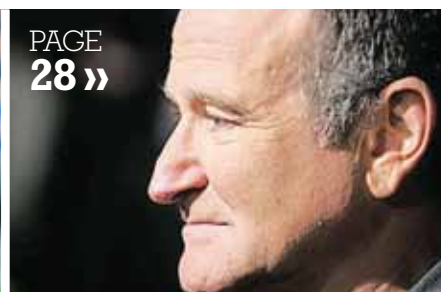
Starting this weekend, it will pull in thousands to a town which is, in itself, in a state of constant evolution.

The aim, of course, is that at the end of the process the bigger picture for these towns is one of economic success and creative talent. Art can help, in part at least, to paint that future vision.

Enjoy your weekend.



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HOW TO CONTACT US...

Publisher: Simon Irwin

Email simon.irwin@archant.co.uk

Editor: Chris Britcher

Email chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

Address: Kent House, 81 Station Road, Ashford TN23 1PP

Editorial: News: 01233 653475

Sport/Leisure: 01233 653479

Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Advertising:

Jobs/Notices: 0845 671 4460

Business: 01233 653461

Email appointments@kosmedia.co.uk

Retail/Leisure/Motors: 01233 653461

Email sales@kosmedia.co.uk

Distribution: 01233 653470

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Artist buries £10,000 of gold on popular beach

By Jamie Weir

jamie.weir@archant.co.uk

THOUSANDS of people are expected to continue to dig for a haul of 30 gold pieces worth £10,000 buried on a Folkestone beach this weekend – with anyone who finds a piece told they can keep it and sell it.

The remarkable stunt is part of a piece of art, entitled Folkestone Digs, by the artist Michael Sailstorfer. It forms part of the Folkestone Triennial arts festival which begins this weekend and runs until November.

Organisers insist it is no hoax and that the pieces range in value from £250 to £500.

In addition to the gold there are other items of metal in a bid to make it fairer for those taking metal detectors on to the beach.

The gold was hidden on the Outer Harbour Beach and revealed on Thursday lunchtime. At 4pm that day, when the tide went out and exposed the beach, the public were told if they could find it, they could keep it.

It is believed the gold is spread evenly across the beach and at a depth of around half a metre.



GOLD: The hunt began on Thursday afternoon for 30 pieces of gold hidden on a Folkestone beach

However, with the shifting sands and tides, anyone seeking to find the 24-carat pieces may have to hunt well as they are very small, and well hidden.

Lewis Biggs, curator of the triennial – which takes place once every three years – explained: “The piece lasts forever because no one will ever know if all the pieces have ever been found or not.

“A lot of people won’t admit to having found one even if they have. Would you? We see no end to the

artwork. It is meant to be a lot of fun.”

Organisers admit they are keeping a close eye on the beach to ensure everyone remains safe, while the RNLI has advised all those heading to the beach this weekend to take all the normal precautions to ensure their safety in pursuit of gold.

Local people and visitors wanting to dig are encouraged to keep an eye on the weather forecast and the tide times and should pack some suitable

footwear.

Born in 1979, Michael Sailstorfer lives and works in Berlin. Previous works have included painstakingly collecting fallen autumn leaves, painting and refastening them back onto the tree to simulate a premature spring.

The triennial is seen as one of the key tools in transforming the image and reputation of the seaside town.

For more on the Folkestone Triennial see pages 22-23.

Website launched to reunite stolen property with rightful owners

POLICE eager to reunite people with stolen property are hoping that a new initiative will see hundreds of items, from jewellery to car parts, back with the rightful owner.

The force has launched a gallery on its website where members of the public who have had items stolen, can browse recovered property.

The photo gallery, called ‘Is This Yours?’ features property recovered as the result of arrests, raids on suspects properties or when it’s been handed into a police station.

Detective Chief Inspector Ann Lisseman said: “We have 15 items with a total value of about £2,000 and one piece has been in our care for five months.

“Since then, we’ve accumulated a large amount of stock that we’ve been unable to place. Some of it has been stolen or recovered locally but some would have found its way to Kent from other parts of the country.

“Many of these things would be greatly missed, particularly jewellery which often has sentimental value. It

would be wonderful if there was a happy ending for some people who may have given up hope of ever seeing their belongings again.

“The potential benefits of the new initiative are enormous. We should be able to return more property to owners, reduce the number of items in our property stores, and bring more suspects to justice.

“The latter happens when we believe that property doesn’t belong to the person who has it but we can’t prove it.

“If we can find the rightful owner through Is This Yours? we can build a prosecution case against the alleged offender.”

The biggest item the police currently have on the site is a mobility scooter while the longest item in the police store has been a side window from a Mini.

Members of the public who make a claim will need to prove that they are the rightful owner of the item. For details see the Kent Police website at www.kent.police.uk.

Ex sweet shop owner jailed for assaults on young girls

A FORMER sweet shop owner who indecently assaulted children in the back of his shop more than 30 years ago has been jailed for 15 months.

Edwin Griggs, 82, was found guilty by a jury at Canterbury Crown Court of indecently assaulting two young girls in the back of The Chocolate Box in Strand Street, Sandwich, between 1974 and 1981.

His victims, who were 12 and 13

at the time, said he had assaulted them as a ‘punishment’ for stealing sweets from the shop. The women came forward in 2012, after one of them had seen Griggs in a shop a few months earlier.

The other woman now lives in Canada but was able to give evidence via video link.

He was found guilty of three counts of indecent assault. He was cleared of two other charges.

‘Illegal immigrant’ alert was cross-Channel swimmer

POLICE called to reports of an ‘illegal immigrant’ on Dover seafront discovered it was actually a Channel swimmer attempting to break a world record.

Officers and Border Force officials arrived at Shakespeare beach at around 8.45am on Wednesday, after calls were made by concerned locals.

But it was actually Australian

triathlete John Van Wisse, who was preparing to swim 21 miles across the Channel.

Mr Wisse had already run a gruelling 86 miles from London’s Marble Arch to Dover the day before.

After he gets to France he will cycle 180 miles to Paris, and is aiming to beat the current record of 73 hours and 39 minutes set by Mark Bayliss in 2012.



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Worrying number do not earn a 'living wage'

FIGURES released this week highlighted how thousands of workers are struggling on pay below the so-called 'living wage'.

The £7.65 an hour rate is seen as allowing workers to afford a basic standard of living.

But the Trade Unions' Congress (TUC) says 29 per cent of workers in the South Thanet constituency are paid less.

Sittingbourne and Sheppey had the greatest number of women earning below the figure - some 34 per cent.

Sevenoaks is the part of the county with the least employees earning under the living wage with just over 15 per cent of employees earning less.

TUC general secretary, Frances O'Grady, said: "Women are bearing the brunt of growing in-work poverty across Britain today."



BLOOMING: Kaddy Lee Preston

TV star Kaddy confirms she's expecting baby

BBC weather presenter Kaddy Lee Preston has confirmed she is expecting her first child.

The 36-year-old star, most famous for her long-running stint on BBC South East Today, confirmed live on air during a broadcast on Tuesday night that she was due to give birth at the end of November.

Sporting a bump, she also admitted she was expecting a baby girl.

She said: "I am six months pregnant. I keep trying to keep the gender a secret but I keep calling her a she, so the secret's out."

The presenter, who lives in a village near Ashford, left full-time employment at the BBC in March 2012, but has continued to freelance for the corporation, as well as keeping a high local profile.

She told KoS at the time: "People said I was mad to leave such a great job and there may have been a one per cent doubt, but 99 per cent was pure excitement that this was the right time to move on."

"What I'm finding now, and what I hoped would happen, is there aren't enough hours in the day to do the things I want to do now I've left."

Last November, she was the presenter of the inaugural Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards.

Ann Barnes takes a shot at PM David Cameron in row over gun licensing

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

POLICE and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes is demanding to know why a decision to raise the gun licensing fees appears to have been overturned by the Prime Minister.

The commissioner has written to David Cameron challenging his decision and asking why tax payers are to continue picking up a large chunk of the cost of obtaining or renewing a shotgun or firearm licence.

A governance board meeting on Tuesday was told the shortfall between the cost to Kent Police of administering applications and renewals and the actual fee paid by those owning firearms and shotguns is nearly £700,000 every year – the approximate cost of 18 police officers or one per cent of the council tax precept.

Mrs Barnes said: "I expect Kent Police to ruthlessly interrogate its budget to find the savings we need to cope with a relentless round of cuts to police funding."



UNDER FIRE: PM David Cameron

"So I find it very hard to understand why this full cost recovery decision, approved by the Home Office, the Treasury and minister responsible appears to have been overturned by the Prime Minister."

"On behalf of the people of Kent I want to know why. I think the majority of the public would want to see 18 more officers on the street and to ask those who want to keep firearms and shotguns to pay more towards the actual cost of issuing the licences."

Deputy Chief Constable Paul Brandon told the board that the cost of granting a new firearm or shotgun certificate is £50 for five years, although the true cost, taking into account the administrative time and effort is £189. The fee for the five-year renewal of a certificate is £40 but the true cost is £106.

He added that this meant that Kent Police is only recovering between 26 per cent to 37 per cent of the true cost of individual licences.

The cost includes checking databases, obtaining medical evidence, verifying the identity of the individual and their referee, reviewing storage and maintaining a database of holders and their weapons.

Each year Kent Police renews more than 2,000 new shotgun licences – the highest in the country.

Psychiatric hospital for indecent train act

A 38-year-old man has been sentenced to a lifetime on the sex offender register and detention in a psychiatric hospital after exposing himself and masturbating on a train last summer.

Stefan Turansky of Mayfair Road, Dartford, was sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court after pleading guilty at an earlier hearing to two counts of exposure and two counts of engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child.

The court heard how Turansky committed the indecent acts while sitting close to a 26-year-old woman, and later a mother and her two children, onboard the 6.48pm London Charing Cross to Gillingham service on July 29, 2013.

Detective Constable Andy Parkinson said: "The lifetime requirement to remain on the sex offenders' register reflects the seriousness of these offences. Turansky targeted women, travelling on a quiet train and followed the second victim, when she tried to get away. This has had a lasting emotional effect on both victims."

Boost for council as it secures £1.37m funds

THANET District Council has been successful in a bid for £1.37 million of funding - money which it will invest in building dozens of new affordable homes.

The council housing team bid for the money through the government's 2015-2018 Affordable Homes Programme which is being run by the Homes and Communities Agency.

The money will allow the council to build 58 new affordable homes in the district, with the project set to start in April 2015. The new homes, which will include a range of bungalows, flats and two and three bedroom houses, will be completed by March 2018.

Deputy leader of the council and cabinet member for housing, Richard Nicholson, said: "This is fantastic news as this significant funding will create more affordable housing opportunities for residents across the district. I'd like to congratulate the housing team at the council on a successful bid."

Smugglers of 'family in car boot' are jailed

TWO people-traffickers who tried to smuggle four immigrants into the UK in a car boot have been jailed for a total of six years.

Didier Devos and Sandra Vientot had a child of seven, her parents and a 55-year-old man crammed into the boot of their car when they were stopped at Dover Eastern Docks on June 30.

The immigrants, all from Afghanistan, were described by police as being in a "poor condition".

The pair had come from Calais to Dover on the ferry in their French-registered Renault and told border control officers they were just on a day trip.

They were found guilty of trafficking at Canterbury Crown Court and unemployed Devos, 36, of no fixed abode, was jailed for four years. Vientot, 28, from Dunkerque, was jailed for two.

Detective Constable Matthew Whitlock, from Kent Police's frontier crime unit, said: "Like others who trade in human misery, they were driven by financial greed and had no regard for human life. People were disposable to them."

agenda

What will make next week's headlines...

Brave rescuers pick up awards at KFRS bash

A FIREFIGHTER who helped at the scene of an horrific crash which claimed the life of a mother and her eight-year-old son on the Sheppey Crossing, will be presented with a special award this week.

Ronnie Selfe, from the island, will be one of a number of frontline and support staff receiving commendations at the Kent Fire and Rescue

Service award ceremony taking place on Wednesday at Oakwood House in Maidstone.

KFRS chief executive Ann Millington said: "I am extremely proud of all those receiving awards and would like to express my thanks, not just to them but also to all the staff at KFRS for their dedication and hard work for Kent



and Medway's communities."

Other awards will go to Maidstone firefighter Jason Reeves for providing CPR which helped save a man's life following a serious road collision on the A21.

Motorists in water main warning on busy A249

A SPECIAL presentation will be made next Saturday to alert residents of seven-weeks of disruption as work to replace an old water main on the A249 takes place.

Teams from South East Water will attend the Detling Parish Open Day to answer questions from local residents and motorists at the event between

11am and 3pm.

The work starts on September 15 on the stretch of road between the M20 junction seven and M2 junction five, on both the north and southbound carriageways.

Both carriageways will have one lane closed and a 50mph speed restriction while the work takes place.

...also

Teddies tackle trauma

POLICE will this week be able to start helping youngsters involved in car crashes with 100 new cuddly recruits.

The Trauma Teddies will be used to comfort children under six involved in traumatic incidents. They were donated by Swale Knit and Natter Group.

Schools back this week

ROADS are set to get busier again this week, as thousands of school children bid farewell to the summer holidays.

The majority of schools will return this week, increasing traffic at the start and end of the day - especially around major school sites.

Outlet to unveil plans

DESIGNER outlet McArthurGlen in Ashford will this week unveil further details of its ambitious plans to almost double in size.

The popular shopping complex will provide a first glimpse of the scheme and its scale on Wednesday.

Demolition continues

WORK will continue this week on the demolition of the old cinema site in Tunbridge Wells.

The lengthy process has so far seen extensive work take place around the building, which has remained empty since it closed back in 2000.



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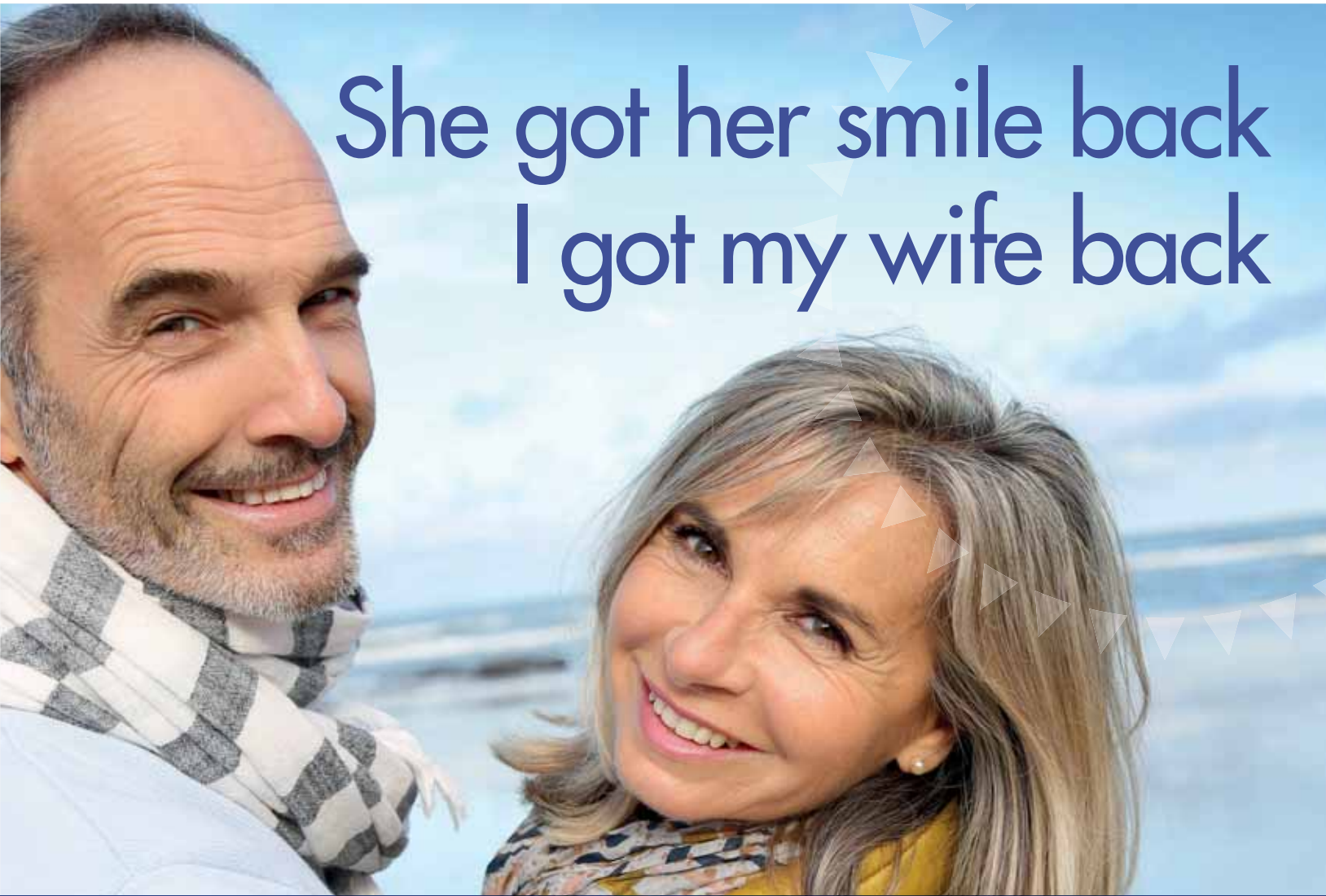


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A photograph of a middle-aged couple smiling at each other on a beach. The man is on the left, wearing a grey and white checkered scarf. The woman is on the right, with grey hair and a yellow top. The background shows a beach and the ocean under a blue sky with some clouds. There are decorative white triangles in the upper right corner.

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It was probably the worst-kept secret in politics, but Nigel Farage's victory to stand as Ukip candidate in South Thanet will make the battle for Westminster even more interesting. **Sarah Linney** reports

NINE years ago Nigel Farage stood for South Thanet in the General Election for his fledgling party, with hopes merely of getting back his deposit.

He finished fourth, polling a little over 2,000 votes – around five per cent of the total turn-out and enough to get his money back.

On the 10th anniversary of that result, he will stand as perhaps the hot favourite to not only win, but to deliver the UK Independence Party with what could be its first ever Westminster representative.

Confirmation of his candidacy – one of the worst-kept secrets in politics – took place at a hustings in Ramsgate on Tuesday night, as local party members cast their vote; Ukip's remarkable rise to prominence embodied by an air of confidence that it can finally secure an MP courtesy of its Marmite-like leader: you either love Westerham's Nigel Farage, or you hate him.

In Britain we like stability. Our first past the post system is designed to favour the big, established, moderate parties. An outsider can poll a few thousand votes at a general election, but they will only win in exceptional circumstances.

Yet the rise of Ukip is showing no signs of stopping any time soon.

Mr Farage, who said he would now be moving to the constituency, told his audience on Tuesday: "Do not discount the possibility that next year Ukip could hold the balance of power.

"Don't listen to those who tell you if you vote for Nigel you will split the vote and let Labour or the Tories in. If you vote Ukip you will get Ukip in May."

Replacing the Liberal Democrats as kingmakers could be perhaps a little optimistic, but if the European and local elections have proved anything, it is you underestimate Ukip and its ability to activate its vote, at your peril.

Speaking to Kent on Sunday after the hustings, Mr Farage said: "I think I can win. I hope I can. My biggest opponent at the election is going to be me. I have got to get my campaign right.

"I am not in the least bit complacent. The first past the post system for a party like ours is damned hard."

He is going to have to win an awful lot of people over. Ukip polled just 2,529 votes in the constituency in 2010. Sitting MP Laura Sandys, who is stepping down, polled 22,043, compared with Labour's 14,426.

John Fitzgibbon, lecturer in politics and international relations at Canterbury Christ Church University, says Mr Farage needs about 18,000 or 19,000 votes to win.

He explained: "He can win, but it's going to be hard for him and it's very dicey. Ukip have been at this stage for a long time now and they have to make their breakthrough. If he doesn't win it could be the end of them."

Thanet is not a safe Tory seat – it was Labour's until the last election – and Dr Fitzgibbon says this makes it more difficult for Mr Farage.

"In somewhere which was strongly Tory, he would just have to appeal to disaffected Tories," he explained.

"But in South Thanet you have several options – so can he appeal to the Tories and Labour? He has to get disaffected people, the people who have not been turning out to vote,



BATTLEGROUND: Charismatic Ukip leader Nigel Farage will stand as parliamentary candidate for South Thanet, a seat currently held by Tory Laura Sandys

They're all now forced to make plans for Nigel



“I think I can win. I hope I can. My biggest opponent at the election is going to be me. I have got to get my campaign right. I'm not in the least bit complacent”

Nigel Farage, after being named as Ukip candidate for South Thanet

who are sick of the whole thing.

"Farage has no connections with the area, but the Labour candidate Will Scobie has – so will he get the disaffected working class vote? Will they vote for the strong constituency worker or the big name?"

Dr Fitzgibbon says the Tories will be firing on all cylinders in Thanet in a desperate bid to keep their nemesis out of Westminster.

"The Tories are going to have all their ground warfare on this because they have to stop him," he said.

The Conservatives have confirmed Medway councillor Craig Mackinlay as its candidate – himself a former Ukip member and briefly even its leader.

Adds Dr Fitzgibbon: "In the Newark by-election, all the ministers were going to the constituency. Every minister was required to have a leaflet drop. And that's for a by-election. Ukip put a lot of money into that campaign, but it didn't work.

"They are going to have to rely on the grassroots and I think that's going to be a big problem for Nigel Farage. He's got to get out there and really fight hard for it and blitz the groundwork.

"He can't get in just by being Nigel Farage and turning up on the day.

"The Tories don't have to save that seat, they just have to prevent him from getting it. If they can do that, that's like a victory for them."

People who have made a protest vote at a local or European election tend to revert to a more mainstream party at general elections – but Dr Fitzgibbon

says that isn't a given this time.

"People might go back to what they know. But they don't know this guy Craig Mackinlay. He's a very traditional Conservative candidate, but he's not from the area," he said.

"And Labour don't have a very established presence there [the party has only one county councillor to Ukip's seven]."

He says the election will ultimately depend on the economy – a buoyant economy will benefit the Tories.

"People always vote with their pockets. If there's a big swing to either party Farage could just get wiped out," Dr Fitzgibbon said.

"But if there's a swing against the Conservatives, or if people just think, I'm sick of the whole lot of them, he could get in.

"I think he will come a very close second. I think people look at Farage and think he's a fantastic speaker, and they look at Ukip and think they are crazy.

"But it's going to come down to such finely balanced things, like a three to four per cent swing. We just don't know right now."

Craig Mackinlay had called for Ukip not to put a candidate up in South Thanet because he is such a strong Eurosceptic himself.

He said he felt sad to be standing against his ex-party colleague.

"I can't see any sense in it and I haven't spoken to anyone who can," Mr Mackinlay said.

"In terms of a strategy for Britain, it shows quite unbelievable political

immaturity. I think people will look at Ukip now and say, I'm a little bit confused about what it's for.

"The media spotlight is going to be on South Thanet and the Tory party will be acting accordingly.

"I've been in politics as long as Nigel has and I'm the candidate who has done real things and has real experience of dealing with the public.

"I'm concerned about what's happening in the constituency, whereas Nigel seemed interested in the fishing, golfing and pubs in Ramsgate."

Labour candidate Will Scobie was his usual calm self and said he was "just cracking on with things".

"We have been expecting this for more than a year. It doesn't change the approach we're going to take," he said. "Since I was selected 13 months ago we have knocked on 25,000 doors and delivered 100,000 leaflets.

"We will still be doing those things, and going to residents' meetings and helping people with casework.

"That's how you win elections; by listening and talking to people.

"I'm confident I have the team around me to win next year.

"I have a personal vote locally because I have lived here all my life and people see me at events and recognise me. And I think I'm now going to get a lot more support than I did before from people wanting to come down here and campaign."

Laura Sandys announced her decision to stand down earlier this year.



Sydenham High celebrates exam and scholarship success

Students at Sydenham High School GDST have been celebrating exceptional exam success, prestigious scholarships and university places this Summer.

A level results brought a one hundred per cent pass rate, with three quarters of the Sydenham High students achieving A*/B grades and a third securing A*/A grades. There were also celebrations for places on a wide range of courses at top universities including Cambridge, Edinburgh, Exeter, Manchester, St Andrews and York.

Amongst the highest scoring students were Rosie Cope and Elizabeth Treece who both achieved A*AA in their subjects, pictured here (second from top) with fellow student Olivia Muir who secured an A* in her Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Rosie will be heading to Cambridge to study French and Olivia to Exeter to start a degree in Clinical Psychology. Meanwhile Elizabeth will be following her dream to become a professional dancer with a place at the London Studio Centre, including a first year scholarship.

Meanwhile at GCSE, 65 per cent of students gained A*-A grades and 29

per cent achieved specifically A*s, with three girls gaining the magic number of ten A* grades. Ninety-six per cent of passes were A-C.

Kathryn Pullen, Sydenham High's Headteacher, said: "I am so proud of our girls in achieving these great results against the recent background of change in the exam system. They've all worked hard and had tremendous support from their teachers and parents. Their resilience and determination are at the heart of the educational experience we offer here and will stand them in good stead as they progress with their education or into the world of work. Their achievements are just the beginning of a bright future."

One very happy student was Katie Mills. Not only did the 16-year old (pictured with Headteacher Kathryn Pullen, fourth photo from the top) achieve two A*s and eight As, she has also been awarded a nationally sought-after Arkwright Engineering Scholarship which identifies her as one of the country's future leaders in engineering and technical design.

The renowned Arkwright Engineering Scholarship will not only provide Katie with a financial

award to support her A level studies but also a range of activities to enhance her understanding and experience of engineering. The win her scholarship, which is respected by leading universities and top employers, Katie competed against a field of over 1,300 candidates from across the UK.

Dr Martin Thomas, Chief Executive of the Arkwright Scholarships Trust, said: "I am delighted to see a student from Sydenham High School secure this prestigious accolade. Clearly, there is considerable technical talent here." The head of design firm Conran recently also praised the school for teaching originality and not just technique in Art and Design Technology.

For more than 125 years, Sydenham High School GDST has been educating girls aged 4-18 from across London, Kent and the South East to the highest standards. The school is selective but diverse, welcoming students with wide ranging talents, abilities and backgrounds into a close community that is large enough to offer choice and flexible but compact enough to ensure that every student is valued and can achieve her fullest potential.



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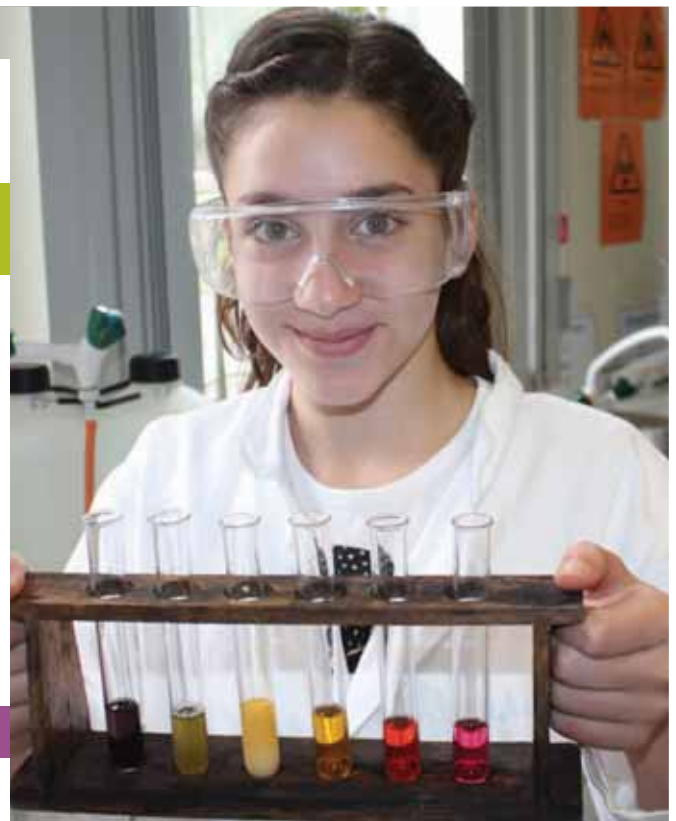
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Fresh flight of fancy in last-gasp bid to put estuary hub on the map

A survey this week claims businesses in the county are warming to proposals for an airport in the Thames Estuary, as war of words erupts once again

OPPONENTS of plans to build a multibillion-pound airport in the Thames Estuary say claims there is growing support from local businesses to the proposals should be taken "with a pinch of salt".

Meanwhile, claims of the economic benefits to the nation of creating the airport, issued by London Mayor and airport champion Boris Johnson, were slammed by fellow Conservative Mark Reckless.

Since first touted by Mr Johnson several years ago, the threat of the estuary airport has not gone away.

The Government commissioned economist Sir Howard Davies to examine aviation capacity in the south east, and earlier this year he revealed his shortlist.

This included extensions to Gatwick and Heathrow.

But, crucially, he failed to rule out the Thames Estuary airport – opting instead to buy himself more time, saying it needed further examination.

Whether it makes the final shortlist – which will be presented to the Government for consideration after the next General Election – will be announced in September.

Threatening to bring widespread disruption to the county, the majority have always opposed the plans, despite the potential boost to jobs and the local economy.

But a new charm offensive this week was launched as the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, a member organisation for businesses in the county, published results of a poll which revealed four out of 10 members taking part were in support of the estuary airport.

This was quickly seized on by Mr Johnson's office as a sign the tide was turning in its favour.

However, the results still suggest the majority are opposed.

On the same day, the London Mayor's transport chiefs released figures suggesting the airport would support 336,000 jobs around the country and contribute £92.1 billion a year to the economy by 2050.

Rochester and Strood MP, Mark Reckless said he thought the latest figures were "unlikely to influence the commission at this point".

"The proposal is completely unfeasible," the Tory MP said.

"I polled thousands of people in a constituency referendum and 90 per cent of them were opposed to it," he said.

"It is far, far cheaper to expand an existing airport than to build a new one. It would cost between £5 billion and £15bn to expand an existing airport, compared with between £82bn

and £112bn to build one in the Thames Estuary.

"And that is the official aviation commission figure. At a seminar I held with industry experts, which took into account things the commission hadn't, we came up with £148bn.

"At least £60bn of that would have to come from the taxpayer. The remainder would be borrowed, and the interest would add at least £50 to every plane ticket."

He said the economic advantages of the new airport would be counterbalanced by the economic destruction it would cause in other ways.

"It is completely counterproductive. We don't have to build something we already have at Heathrow and Gatwick," Mr Reckless said.

"It would destroy jobs and reduce the size of the economy – people who are dependent on Heathrow and Gatwick would lose money. And many of the businesses involved in Heathrow and Gatwick won't move to the estuary – why would they? They will close down or maybe move abroad – there are plenty of other airports.

"I don't think we can create jobs or generate real economic activity by borrowing money."

He was also sceptical about Boris Johnson's claim that the airport would bring £92.1bn into the economy by 2050.

"He's just made that up, hasn't he?" Mr Reckless said.

"If you pay a group of consultants enough money to come up with a figure for you they will do so. The airport would be an economic and environmental disaster, not just for the estuary but for the whole country."

The main bone of contention continues to revolve around the enormous impact on wildlife and natural habitats on the north Kent coast.

In a preliminary report published earlier this month, the Davies Commission itself acknowledged the enormous impact it would have.

It said the estuary airport would be horrifically costly and would "rad-

“If you pay a group of consultants enough money to come up with a figure for you they will do so. It would be an environmental and economic disaster”

Mark Reckless MP

on economic claims of new airport



FLIGHT: Plans for an estuary airport are supported by Boris Johnson and opposed by Mark Reckless

ically and irreversibly" change the landscape.

"It is likely to result in large scale adverse effects on international nature conservation designations," the commission said.

"All the airport options proposed on the Hoo Peninsula would result in large scale direct habitat loss.

"A large area of compensation habitat creation would be required and this would be on a scale unprecedented for any single development in Europe."

A subsequent report by the British Trust of Ornithology said that the airport would cause a significant loss of coastal wetland habitat – the area is home to more than 140,000 birds.

George Crozer, a spokesman for the campaign group Friends of the North Kent Marshes and the chairman of High Halstow Parish Council, said he was unmoved by the survey of local businesses. He told KoS: "We will take the survey with a pinch of salt.

"The arguments against an airport in the Thames Estuary are overwhelming. It's about the environment, our

way of life and our quality of life.

"There are places around the world designated as precious and the aim of that is so that governments don't just trash them."

He said it was not about what was best for one area, but what was best for the country as a whole.

"Wherever they put the airport it's going to create a lot of jobs – although the figure of 336,000 is not at all realistic. Heathrow employs about 114,000 people," Mr Crozer said.

"But it's about what we want for the country, not what we want individually, and that's the way we should all be looking at it.

"Do we need the extra capacity, and if we do, where's the best place for it?"

"This place is as special as the New Forest and that preciousness needs to be in the hearts and minds of the people of this country."

However, Richard Lavender, a director of the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, said business leaders had good reason to be in favour of the es-

tuary airport.

"We closed the survey last Friday," he explained, "but as responses continued to come in, the proportion in favour of the estuary airport rose to 45 per cent.

"That is quite large support. A lot of people think it will bring prosperity, jobs and business to the area.

"We supported the expansion of Manston and the fast link from Ashford to Gatwick, but both those options have been taken off the agenda by the Davies Commission.

"The opposition has been from the county council and local MPs. The business community have never before been asked for their opinion."

He said more houses would have to be knocked down to build a third runway at Heathrow than would have to be destroyed to make way for the estuary airport.

"This is head, not heart. We have a high-speed link in north Kent, we have Paramount and Ebbsfleet town coming, and all this is going to improve the area. If this is an opportunity, let's grab it."

Dame Kelly hopes she's onto another winner with new cafe

After years of problems and objections, the double gold-winning Olympian has finally realised her dream of opening an upmarket cafe in her home village of Hildenborough. **Chris Murphy** reports

AT TIMES it seemed to be as fierce a battle as she often experienced on the track in a glittering, gold-tinted career.

But on Thursday, Dame Kelly Holmes was finally able to provide a glimpse of her latest challenge – life as the owner of an upmarket cafe in her home village of Hildenborough.

The double Olympic gold medal winner – she memorably captured the imagination of the nation when she won gold in both the 800m and 1,500m final at the Athens Games in 2004 – marked the 10th anniversary of her triumph by unveiling Cafe 1809.

The name – she prefers each digit said separately – was the number she wore during those glorious Games.

Formerly the Fags and Mags newsagent, the cafe will officially open to the public next month – but the venture has been far from a stroll in the park.

Not everyone has shared her vision and objections to the plans slowed its development.

And, the former athlete admits, she has spent more than a decade trying to buy the building.

Now 44, Dame Kelly says it will be an ideal place for people to meet and enjoy a casual meal and coffee.

She explained: “It has been a long-term project – I have been trying to buy this building for 15 years.

“It was a newsagents when I was a kid, it was a sweet shop and I did a paper round from there. I also worked there for about a year.

“I wanted to make it a coffee shop, so the people in my village could go somewhere nice to socialise and relax.

“When I was 16, I told the owner I was going to buy it some day.

“When I was injured during my athletics career, I used the time to keep going in and trying to buy it. For 15 years I was doing this and even got a survey done on it.

“I eventually got it and went through the normal things like planning permission, twice.

“Since January there has been work going on – we have demolished around 90 per cent of it for all the ground work to be done. I even took over as project manager because I am a bit of control freak.”

She's certainly been no long-distance investor.

She adds: “There are normally about 12 guys on site every day and of course me.

“I had on my hard hat, baggy trousers and boots – and there was some builder's bum; I felt I had to blend in and be one of the lads. I have been digging, plastering, and getting stuck in.

“Some of them were a bit overweight, so one day I had them all in a line doing chin-ups on the scaffolding. They were dropping like flies and I was calling out ‘come on’ while kiss-



STARTER'S ORDERS: Dame Kelly Holmes joined workmen during the building of her new establishment in village of Hildenborough – Cafe 1809

ing my guns and telling them they weren't toys.

“I was getting breeze blocks and chest pressing them. I had to show them.”

Prior to her career in athletics, Dame Kelly spent a decade as a physical instructor in the British Army, having been born in Pembury and grown up in the town, near Tonbridge.

She added: “I am really proud of where I am from, and we haven't got anything like this.

“We have lots of mums and a big OAP community and you currently

“I wanted to make it a coffee shop, so people in my village could go somewhere to socialise and relax. When I was 16, I told the owner I was going to buy it one day”

Dame Kelly Holmes,
on reason for opening Cafe 1809

have to go in to the towns to socialise, so I am bringing a little bit of glamour back to the village.

“If it doesn't work, it doesn't work. But you have to give things a go in life and I would have regretted not doing this forever.

“I have put in a lot of time, effort and money into doing this venture and will give it my best shot.”

She hopes to open properly in the third week of September, but it has been an uphill struggle.

Objectors were worried about a lack of parking, but Dame Kelly is contacting cycle clubs to see if Cafe 1809 can be included as a stop on bike routes. Bike racks and locks are to be provided outside along with cleaning stations.

It won't be littered with images of the sports star either, other than the iconic image of her hitting the 1,500m winning line at Athens.

Opening times was also a bone of contention for a while and that was scaled back from a 10pm close on some days to 6pm.

There are, however, further plans to expand the opening hours using a different route.

A spokesman for Tonbridge and



Malling council said: “She has applied for a licence for supply of alcohol. This would be Monday to Saturday between 10am and 9pm, and then Sunday between 10am and 4pm.”

That was due to be heard by the licensing and appeals panel.

Dame Kelly told us: “I am not turning this in to a restaurant – it will be a cafe through and through.

“I want the drinks licence so I can hold themed events at times like Wimbledon, Halloween, and Christmas, and anything that crops up, and will need to serve things like Pimms, Champagne and mulled wine.”

Local Tonbridge and Malling and county councillor Chris Smith believes the cafe will fail and has opposed it from the start.

He told us there is practically no parking, and is “too big for the area”.

Cllr Smith said: “It would have been better half the size. She has taken a two-bedroom flat next door and incorporated it into this so-called cafe.

“Well, it's not a cafe, it's a restaurant. To be perfectly frank, she has bitten off far more than she can chew. I think she has been badly advised. I

don't think it will succeed. I feel sorry for her.

“For it to be sustainable over a period of time is asking an awful lot. There is a pub a few doors away that has changed hands quite a bit over recent years because they can't make a go of it.

“I am worried if this closes down, it will open the way for a fast food place to move in to the detriment of the whole village.”

But the athlete has hit back at her critics and insists she will take a very hands on approach to making it a success and an asset to her village.

She told us: “This is my baby. I will be here on a regular basis. If I am away from the area then I can't make it in, but I am determined to make this a success. It is not a celebrity cafe, this is something I have brought to life for people to have a social place to visit.

“We will be priced like any other cafe.”

She plans to have installed a frozen yoghurt machine along with a juice bar, but also serve cream teas.

Upstairs could eventually see a therapy room offering the usual beauty treatments and even a meeting room for hire.



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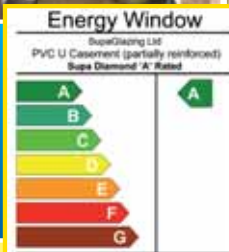
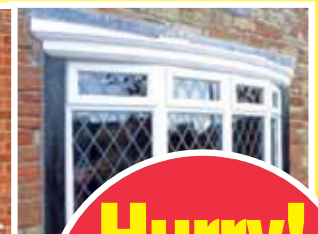
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Hemingway confident his vision for new Dreamland is worth all the fun and games

Maria Chiorando speaks to Wayne Hemingway, the man tasked with returning Margate's famous amusement park back into a major attraction, on how the project has seen him bond with the town

WAYNE Hemingway is not a man to shy away from a challenge.

The designer is best known for founding iconic fashion design brand Red or Dead along with wife Geraldine, and now the straight-talking northerner has stepped up to the job of re-imagining Dreamland, Margate's famous amusement park, as a heritage attraction.

Given free rein to design a space known as the heartbeat of Margate must be a mouth-watering yet terrifying prospect, but the prolific designer is undaunted.

"Dreamland is without a doubt the most challenging project," he says, "but also one of the most rewarding; knowing what it can achieve, and knowing what it means.

"Sometimes when you're working on something and you love the philosophy and the social element then it doesn't matter how hard it is, or how many barriers are in the way, none of that matters."

When he first secured the contract, two years ago, his enthusiasm for the project was only too apparent.

"Boy are we happy and excited," he said at the time. "It's right up our street, seaside regeneration, heritage, cool and fun."

Heritage-cool has been a thread running through many of his projects.

And, along with his partner Geraldine, he has worked on a number of them.

Born in the seaside town of Morecambe in Lancashire in 1961, he found himself in the design world through chance.

While living in London with Geraldine, who he met at a disco in 1981, he managed to blow their month's rent money on his punk band, and ended up flogging his clothes on a stall in Camden Market.

It was surprisingly profitable, and the pair ended up opening more stalls, importing second-hand clothing from around the world, as well as selling his grandmother Ida's vintage tea dresses. This set the tone for much of the pair's

future work, taking old items and turning them into something desirable and mass-marketable.

By the beginning of 1983 they had more than 16 stalls, and opened an outlet in Kensington, selling Geraldine's own designs, alongside Dr Marten shoes as fashion footwear; the first retailer to do so.

They opened the flagship Red or Dead shop in the mid-80s and the brand continued to grow, winning various awards until they sold their full stake in 1999, to move onto other projects.

And they have not been limited to clothing. In fact, the range of work has been vast: designing wallpaper, flooring, paint colours and building projects. Mr Hemingway also authored a book and became a professor of urban design at Northumbria University in 2004.

And since November 2012, he's taken the helm when it comes to the design of Dreamland.

The park's history has been fraught and one familiar to many.

For decades one of the county's most popular tourist attractions, pulling in young and old alike with its mix of arcades and white-knuckle rides, it suffered as Margate declined as a tourist venue and a new breed of theme parks opened on huge sprawling sites and boasting ever-more extravagant wwwwnt experiences.

“ Sometimes when you're working on something and you love the philosophy and social element then it doesn't matter how hard it is, or how many barriers are in the way, none of that matters ”

Wayne Hemingway,
on his feelings for the Dreamland project



VISION: Mr Hemingway was excited at breathing life back into the old Dreamland site, above



After a period of steady decline, owner Jimmy Godden – the now late amusement park owner who also owned the Rotunda in Folkestone – decided in 2003 to shut it and use the land for commercial and residential development, a decision that was deeply unpopular with locals.

A government report looked into it, and as a result, it was sold to Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company in 2005 for £20 million.

But then things stalled...

As the Turner Contemporary art gallery opened and became a catalyst for regeneration, so pressure began to grow on turning one of the seafront's prime sites into something to capitalise on the town's changing reputation.

A group – the Dreamland Trust – was formed with ambition to turn the site into a heritage

amusement park and attempted to acquire the site.

After a lengthy legal wrangle, it finally secured the site last year, paving the way for the project to start taking shape.

If all goes to plan, it should open next summer.

"A major difficulty has been how long the project is taking, mainly because of the legal issues around land ownership which has made it as difficult as any project could be," says Mr Hemingway.

"The budgets are way below what you'd be working with in a commercial world, which means everyone has to get to put into it more than they normally would, but people are doing it.

"Around 17,000 members of the community has signed up to support a trust, which in a

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DREAM LAND:
Artist's impression
of new interior



« PAGE 15

town the size of Margate is absolutely amazing, and we had thousands of people turn up to help pull up weeds.

"This is because it has captured people's imaginations because a battle has been fought; a battle of people power, and it has been won."

Until the park's reopening, which is hoped to be in time for the summer season in 2015, there is the Dreamland Expo, which has so far welcomed 20,000 visitors, an astonishing display of interest in what Hemingway describes as "just a small exhibition".

With curiosity growing, it is no surprise that speculation has been rife, with one local newspaper releasing images of what they claimed was the new site logo, although this turned out to be untrue.

The publication left Mr Hemingway annoyed.

"The pictures you saw, that's not our logo, they just took that lettering off some products and claimed it was the logo.

"When we release creative details like that, it'll be with a big fanfare, rather than just quietly drip feeding things. There's no point just giving little peeks because we are still quite a few months away from opening."

The Dreamland director, Eddie Kemsley, has said that there is going to be a 'vintage-feel; a flavour of Dreamland though the decades, with lots of up-cycling (reusing of old

“ When we release creative details like that, it'll be with a big fanfare. There's no point giving little peeks because we are still a few months away from opening ”

Wayne Hemingway, on the roll-out of new-look Dreamland

items) that is one of Heminway Design's trademarks, and currently very popular with the design contingent.

"I think we're going into this with an understanding that we have to appeal to a very wide audience," says Hemingway.

"Older people have a nostalgia for Dreamland, but their grandchildren won't have any kind of memory about it, and they also have to find it exciting and think it's brilliant.

"It is not going to be a living museum, full of old things, it has to be an experience.

"One of the things that is a challenge is that we're targeting such a vast demographic. It is possible. Your grandma can like McDonald's and so can a six year-old. People take certain things away with them from an experience and other people will take away different things.

"You might have a really design-savvy person who is going to appreciate something different to someone who's less interested in it, and then you have someone who's younger that

could take away something else, and someone much older who's going to have an entirely different experience.

"And that is all part of the design concept."

The heavy workload and immersive nature of the way he works, means that through regular trips to the coast, Mr Hemingway has developed something of a bond with the resort.

"Dreamland is crucial to the regeneration of Margate," he says.

"There are always new things happening, like the Turner [Contemporary] opening, for example, but it has to keep doing things that are significant. It needs to keep moving; the brand needs to keep evolving.

"It's doing really really well as a town, its branding is going up, it's getting tonnes of media coverage.

"For example, it's had a photo shoot in Vogue, four pages in the Observer, it had another shoot that was featured in the New York Times.

"The marketing of Dreamland will

also be very important, and so far it has been done very well. You don't just get into Vogue.

"It's obviously easier to get into the local press, but to get the town into the national press is a fantastic bonus."

He is optimistic about the reception it will receive.

"When Dreamland is open, you can expect something that will make people go 'wow, I can't wait for this build to be finished, I can't wait for phase two' – and they're saying that after they've visited phase one 10 times.

"We are totally confident. Of course, you don't always know what's around the corner, so we're not arrogant, but we believe in the project."

■ What do you think? Is the revival of Dreamland filling you with optimism? Will it help breathe new life into Thanet? Will you want to go? Join the debate and share your views. Write to The Editor, KoS, Kent House, 81 Station Road, Ashford TN23 1PP. Or email us at editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.



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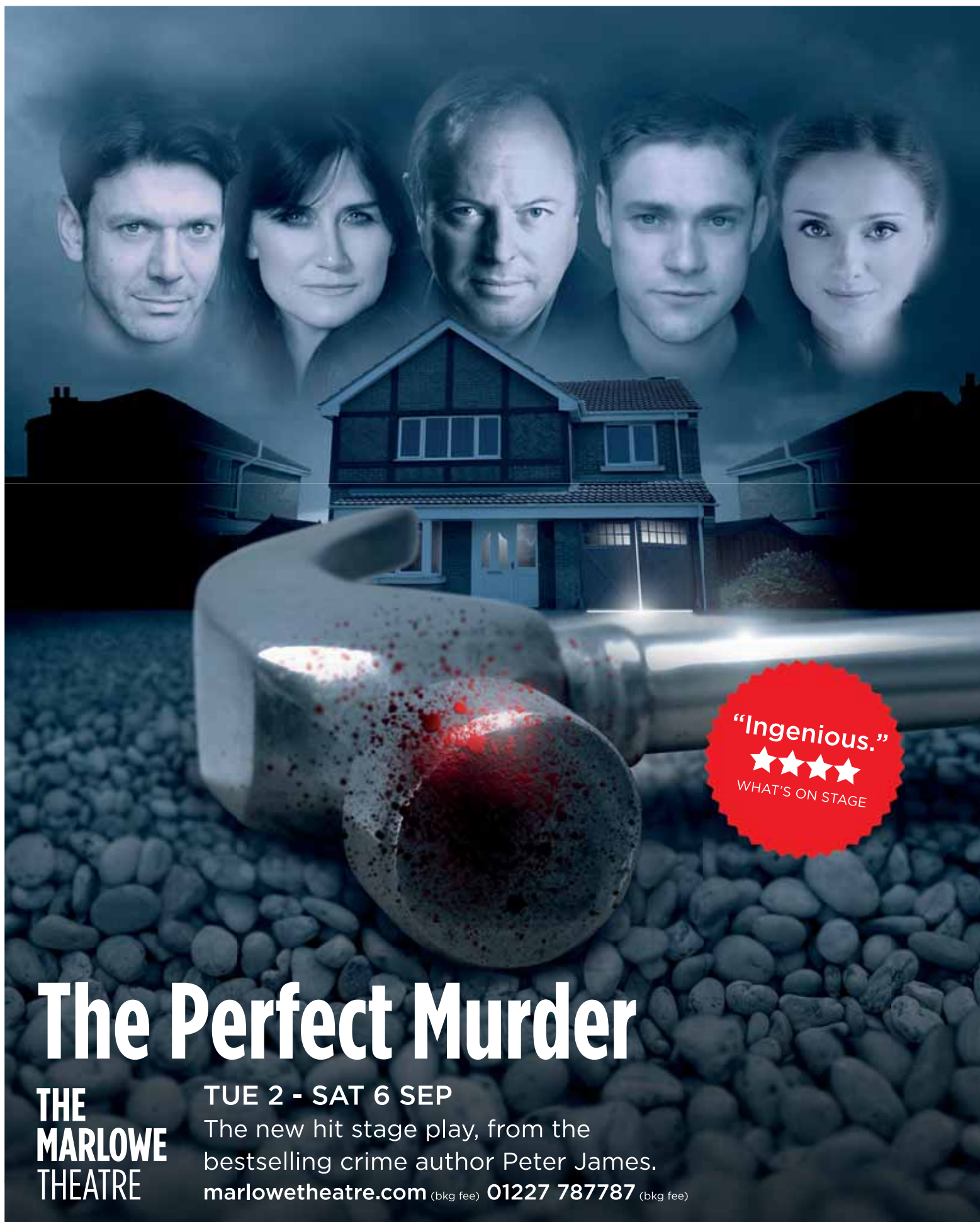
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A VINE SIGHT: Hush Heath vineyard, near Staplehurst, epitomises the success Kent winemakers are achieving globally, having produced the first sparkling wine to be used on British Airways

Technical revolution gives age-old industry the sweet taste of success

WHEN the temperature drops to zero on a chilly spring night, something strange occurs on a four-acre vineyard in the west of the county.

Staff may be sleeping, but when an automated text message beeps to inform them of the drop in temperature, they need to act... and fast.

And so, should you be braving such a night yourself, you would see the sight of sleepy folk taking to the slopes and lighting candles below the vines.

Doing so creates a micro-climate which warms the air just enough to prevent a damaging frost and protects the precious harvest.

This is winemaking 21st century-style – and Kent is at the forefront of a technical revolution in one of the world's oldest industries.

As the strength of the county's vineyards grows faster than the plump grapes which are establishing its reputation, so the pursuit of building on the production process continues apace.

One of the key players is Hush Heath vineyard, near Staplehurst.

It has put a scientific and modern twist on the winemaking process, which is at times quite staggering.

What is more, the obsession with detail at the vineyard is something which the owner and founder, Rich-

ard Balfour-Lynn, feels is integral to the wine he creates there.

He is no stranger to succeeding in what he does.

As the man who founded a property development group – MWB Group Holdings – which became a multimillion-pound business, he knows just how crucial details are.

He said: "Everything we do here has to be perfect; it all needs to be

crisp, and clean. It isn't enough to just be passionate about something.

"We try to approach every aspect of the winemaking in a scientific way. Without that, we wouldn't be able to produce such high quality wines."

So far the effort invested is paying off. The vineyard produces a range of still and sparkling products as well as still ciders.

Its flagship wine, and what is described by Mr Balfour-Lynn as the winery's *raison d'être*, the Balfour Rosé, won the prestigious Decanter Gold award in 2013.

What's more, its reputation is being spread internationally courtesy of some high-class business deals.

Mr Balfour-Lynn said: "We have produced the first English sparkling wine to be used on British Airways flights, and also have an exclusive contract with the Orient Express."

"We wouldn't have these without focusing our energies on producing a stunning product."

Hush Heath has invested significantly to create this.

The winery features a huge array of machinery, all of which is instrumental in turning the grapes into a fine end product.

But Mr Balfour-Lynn is at pains to point out that the machinery doesn't mean fewer workers.

He said: "Despite all of the technology we have here, it doesn't save labour. Every single stage of the process is hand controlled and absolutely everything which comes through is hand checked for quality. All of the products undergo rigorous scrutiny to ensure perfection."

So just how do the grapes you can see growing on the vine turn into the bottled products?

The first stage of the production process is putting the grapes through the press, and no, they don't crush them underfoot.

The winery uses a four-tonne magnum Champagne press which is loaded by hand through two pneumatic doors. Loading the press takes about

an hour for a full load, with the press able to squeeze up to five tonnes of grapes in one go. It works by gently crushing the grapes against an internal grill, allowing the juices to trickle down into a juice tray.

Mr Balfour-Lynn explained: "We put all of our hand harvested grapes into the press, which basically juices them and we take the best cuvee, which means the finest juice from the grapes, and then put that into our tanks."

Even juicing the grapes is strictly regulated to ensure it is the highest quality possible, and although the winery is not in the French region of Champagne, it chooses to conform to the standards required by the Comité Interprofessionnel du Vin de Champagne (CIVC), the region's governing body.

That means the grapes undergo what is considered the Champagne region's classic cycle, which lasts for three hours and involves different pressures and rotations of the press.

"Most of the dessert grapes you find on a supermarket shelf have around 10 per cent juice in them," says Mr Balfour-Lynn.

"The remaining 90 per cent of liquid inside them is water. When we are growing we try to use as little water as possible on the vines in order

“ We try to approach every aspect of the winemaking in a scientific way. Without that, we wouldn't be able to produce such high quality wines ”

Richard Balfour-Lynn, owner/founder of Hush Heath vineyard

to ensure our grapes, which are a fraction of the size of a typical dessert grape, have the same ratio, but the other way round with much more juice and flavour in them.

"In fact, we actually drain the vines to take water out and ensure they are as dry as they can be."

And it shows. When you look at the vines, a strip beneath them has been cut to ensure water drains away from them, keeping the flavour of the grapes as punchy as it can be.

Once the grapes are juiced, the cuvee gets pumped into one of the winery's huge tanks.

Mr Balfour-Lynn said: "We have 120,000 litres of tanks here. They're monogrammed stainless steel and have been mirror polished inside to make them easier to clean."

"They also have one important feature which allows us to tweak every aspect of the wines which we make; that's the temperature control."

"We can cool the tanks down or warm them in order to ensure the perfect flavour in the finished product."

In fact, the whole winery has automatic temperature control to allow the team of winemakers the ability to precisely manipulate the climate and control how the grape's juices ferment.

Mr Balfour-Lynn added: "When I first got the idea to make wine, I wanted to make something fun."

"You don't get a more frivolous type of wine than pink fizz, so I decided to focus on creating a brilliant English pink sparkling wine."

"Most wineries in the UK had been planting German grape varieties, but



I decided to plant the three Champagne grapes: Pinot Noir Chardonnay and Pinot Meunier.

"It seemed perfect because we have a similar temperate climate to that region, which is in the north of France. Hush Heath is also on land which has a very similar soil type to Champagne."

"I planted the first of our vines in 2002, on a site which is just over four acres. We planted the vines on an east-west trajectory to ensure they got the right amount of sunshine. The land where we planted that first vineyard is perfectly sheltered from cold winds, but we do also have quite a lot of gadgetry to make sure our vines grow perfectly."

"There's a weather station in the

middle of the field which sends out little data blasts every 15 minutes.

"Everyone in the office will get an email letting them know what the conditions are like, with wind, temperature and other things sent in the bulletin."

"When the temperature drops too much, and this is usually around midnight on cold evenings, the weather station will send a text to everyone who works at the vineyard. At that point, we all get out of bed, rush to the vines and light candles which we place under the vines to keep them warm and prevent frost damage."

"We are actually able to create our own little micro-climate and prevent the vines from being damaged, even if it does mean we don't sleep quite as well."

And it is that kind of passion which has resulted in such great wines.

Once the grapes have been pressed

"We are actually able to create our own little micro-climate and prevent the vines from being damaged, even if it does mean we don't sleep quite as well"

Richard Balfour-Lynn, on care taken to ensure grapes are finest

and juice has gone through the first tank, it has its primary fermentation before being pumped into the blending tanks to create a consistent wine.

After the primary fermentation, the blended wine is put through the bottling process.

The machine used was built specially for Hush Heath and is able to bottle drinks at up to 2,500 per hour.

During the bottling process, each bottle of wine has a small amount of yeast and sugar added to it. The bottle is then finished with a temporary crown cap before being taken away to be stored for ageing.

Mr Balfour-Lynn said: "Once the ageing is over, a small amount of cloudy sediment is inside the bottle. To get that out, the wine has to un-

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So, just who's best of the bunch?

The most common grapes found in Kent for the sparkling winemaking process:

BACCHUS GRAPE

Creates bacchus wine. Named after the Roman God of wine, Bacchus grapes have a strong flavour.

This is one of the UK's most widely planted white varieties, having won a number of awards when bottled.

CHARDONNAY GRAPE

A fundamental ingredient of Champagne, plantings of Chardonnay are on the increase for the production of English sparkling wine.

PINOT NOIR

Often seen in California and Burgundy, the versatile grape can be used for both the production of red wines as well as lighter sparkling wines and rosé.

PINOT MEUNIER

First mentioned in the 16th century, it is a variety of black wine grape most noted for being one of the three main varieties used in the production of Champagne.

dergo another couple of processes.

"First of all, they undergo something called 'riddling'. This is where the sediment in the bottles is collected in the neck of the bottle.

"It's important to do this, otherwise we would end up with cloudy fizz. We use an automatic machine which gets all of the sediment down to the bottom of the neck."

He continued: "Once it's collected there, we need to get rid of that sediment in a process known as 'disgorging'. This is where we freeze the neck of the bottle in order to extract the sediment. The freezing process doesn't affect the flavour of the finished drink, but it's crucial we do it.

"We use another pretty amazing piece of machinery to do the disgorg-

ing. It is able to bring the liquid down to minus-10 degrees immensely quickly in order to flash freeze the liquid. Once that's done, we are able to remove the sediment as a plug of ice from the bottle and then we are almost finished with the wine.

"All we need to do at this stage is test the wine for acidity to work out how much sugar should be added to balance the acidity. The addition of the sugar is called dosage.

"After this, the bottles once again go through the bottling machine, but this time they are fitted with proper corks and the wire cage and automatically labelled.

"We then have our finished wine."

The whole process is time consuming, with Mr Balfour-Lynn saying a

bottle of sparkling wine can take between two and five years to make, depending on how mature it needs to be.

At Hush Heath, he says they like their wines to be fresh and young, saying that the longer they are kept, the duller the taste becomes and the less crisp and fresh it becomes.

And although he likes his wine to be fresh, Mr Balfour-Lynn says he is in the wine business for the long term.

He said: "I told my children that winemaking is a family tradition. They said to me that wasn't possible as I'm the first person to do it. But that's the point.

"I'm building something for the fu-

ture, something which we will do for generations hopefully.


"You don't make great wines quickly. It takes time and hard work. We planted the first vines in 2002, but it's a long-term investment, and a sustained one at that.

"Money is constantly being put into making these wines.

"The French have a word, 'terroir', to describe the unique aspects which add to a wine.

"In our case, I think it's the people who work here, the incredible fruit we grow, the passion put into the wines which are made, and the magical setting we have.

"It's these things which all add up to give the taste we have managed to get out of our wines."




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Gabriel Lester, The Electrified Line, (Cross-track Observation-deck), 2014



Alex Hartley, Vigil, 2014



Exhibit pictures: THIERRY BAL

Emma Hart, Giving It All That, 2014



ART ATTACK: Folkestone's Creative Quarter will take centre stage during the town's triennial which will run for two months, finishing on November 2

Yoko Ono among celebrated artists whose work is set to go on show at popular Folkestone Triennial, writes **Chris Britcher**

IT HAS become one of the most eagerly anticipated art projects in the UK, and this weekend the Folkestone Triennial returns for a two-month stint which transforms the town and draws in thousands of visitors.

Running until November 2, this year's event is expected to pull in more than the 100,000 who visited the last time it was staged, in 2011.

Among the artists who have contributed works for the event are Yoko Ono – the widow of Beatles star John Lennon.

The 81-year-old – who has yet to confirm whether she will appear dur-

ing the event – has contributed a number of pieces.

One text work will appear in a number of locations in the seaside town, including The Leas, where she staged an event at the Metropole Arts Centre in 1966.

She has also written a new 'instruction': an invitation to the people of Folkestone which will be exhibited at the Quarterhouse venue.

Lewis Biggs, curator of Folkestone Triennial, said: "I'm very proud to be curator for an exhibition that is fast becoming a focus of interest around the world. The Folkestone Triennial presents a very special opportunity

for artists who want the challenge of showing outside the gallery, museum or sale room.

"I have been careful to invite only artists whose works fits the opportunity; who want to be in dialogue with the urban context, who have something to say about contemporary life in a wider world and who want to engage with a broader audience."

Once again, the highlights will include a host of very public works of art, using some of the town's best-known landmarks.

For full details see www.folkestone-triennial.org.uk. And for more details, see next week's Kent on Sunday.

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exhibition makes welcome return

Ian Hamilton Finlay, Weather is a Third to Place and Time, 2014



EMIN AMONG STARS SELLING AT BOOT FAIR

VISITORS to a remarkable boot fair got the chance to buy a piece of art by one of the nation's best-loved artists in a star-studded event held on Saturday to mark the opening of the Folkestone Triennial.

Among those taking part in the Vauxhall Art Car Boot Fair this weekend, which took place after KoS went to press, were due to be Margate's Tracey Emin, comic turned artist Vic Reeves (who lives in Charing), Gavin Turk, Mat Collishaw, Chris Barnes, James

Unsworth, Nina Saunders, Nina Fowler, Carolyn Gowdy, Jennifer and Christine Binnie, David Batchelor, Jake Clark, Camille Phoenix and Ian Dawson.

Ms Emin was creating limited edition embroidered artworks exclusively for the fair as well as posters and sculptures with work ranging from £50-£800.

The fair was also championing a host of Folkestone-based artists.

Vauxhall Art Car Boot Fair founder and curator, Karen Ashton,

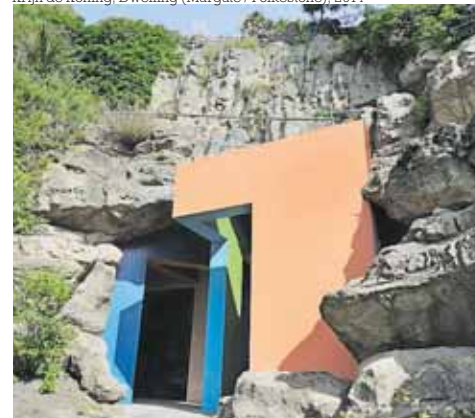
said: "Having established the Vauxhall Art Car Boot Fair as a dynamic and thrilling art marketplace as well as a thoroughly entertaining afternoon for all our art loving visitors in London, it made perfect sense to take our show on the road to engage with new audiences and new artists around the country – and we were delighted to be embraced by the Folkestone Triennial."

The event took place at the Harbourside Car Park.

Something & Son, Amusefood, 2014



Krijn de Koning, Dwelling (Margate / Folkestone), 2014





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Sufferers must open up on problem killing one person every 33 minutes

The taboo subject of bowel cancer is often forgotten about, but one charity wants to change all that, writes **Maria Chiorando**



SOcial taboos mean people are still "dying from embarrassment", according to a charity which aims to educate people about bowel cancer – the UK's fourth most common form of the disease.

Mark Flanagan is CEO of Beating Bowel Cancer, which works with individuals, communities, healthcare professionals and government to improve public awareness of the illness and increase early diagnosis.

He says: "Things like bowels, bottoms and poo are still a source of unease for many, and unlike breast cancer for example, people don't talk about it."

"If you were at a dinner party full of women, and one mentioned finding a lump in her breast, it would be discussed and people would be full of advice. But say the issue was related to bowels – the conversation wouldn't even get started. We won't rest until people are prepared to talk about it."

The cancer (see box) is often diagnosed late, because people don't want to present their symptoms to their doctor. But you must go to your GP if you notice any sudden changes in your bowel habits.

"These changes could include bleeding that lasts for three weeks,

losing weight, or fatigue," says Mr Flanagan.

It is also worth looking out for other changes, such as going to the toilet less than usual, suddenly finding mucus or blood in your faeces or any pain you experience while having a bowel movement.

When diagnosed early, at what is known as stage one, bowel cancer has a high survival rate of 93 per cent, which drops as the disease progresses.

"People think it is an incurable disease, but this is not true," says Mr Flanagan. "You can beat bowel cancer, but you must be aware of the possible symptoms."

If diagnosed, bowel cancer can be treated using a combination of surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and, sometimes, biological therapy, though the treatment can depend on how developed the cancer is when it is discovered.

There are some things you can do to try and prevent bowel cancer.

Maintaining a healthy weight, not smoking, exercising regularly, cutting down on your alcohol intake and eating healthily are all recommended.

"People die every 33 minutes because of bowel cancer. It's always worth getting a medical opinion," says Mr Flanagan.

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UNDERSTANDING:
Nutritionist Kate Arnold



GENERAL BOWEL HEALTH TIPS

TUNBRIDGE Wells nutritionist Kate Arnold specialises in understanding inflammatory bowel diseases, such as IBS (irritable bowel syndrome), many of which have a host of symptoms, including gas, bloating, loose stools, pain and fatigue.

She says: "Bowel cancer is quite rare, and it is important to stress that. It is important to look out for any changes in bowel health, but that doesn't necessarily mean you have cancer.

"The most important thing to know is that any changes in your bowel habits could be significant, and it is always worth going to see your GP if you have any concerns.

"When people are having bowel problems and have ruled out cancer, the first port of call is to look at diet."

There are some dietary changes you can try to help with common issues such as constipation.

Ms Arnold says: "You should make sure you are well-hydrated by drinking more water. You should also increase your intake of soluble fibre, which is found in foods like porridge, pears and apples."

Reducing your intake of processed foods will be helpful for most people, as will looking at the amount of caffeine in your diet (too much makes some people constipated and gives others diarrhoea).

However, it is not all about diet.

"Stress is a massive factor in sluggish digestion," says Ms Arnold.

"We know there is a link between the brain and the gut, and that there are serotonin receptors as well as adrenaline in the gut.

"When you are stressed, the body starts shutting down, and digestion is one of the first functions that stops working.

"Many of us are subject to a low-level chronic daily stress, and that interferes with digestion in the same way. I would suggest anyone with any concerns should try and keep a food diary, which will help get to the bottom of the problem – no pun intended."

To do this, write down everything you eat or drink for two or three weeks, making sure that you're not trying to be extra healthy, but just eating as you normally would.

Alongside your food diary, write a symptom diary, which should help you see if there are any triggers.

"For example, if every time you eat pasta you see that you're getting a stomach ache two hours later, you might want to adjust the quantity of pasta you're eating as a portion," she explains.

"Rather than having a huge bowl, have less pasta and more sauce.

"It should be relatively easy to see any patterns."

■ Around 41,000 people were diagnosed with bowel cancer in the UK in 2011 - more than 110 people per day.

■ Some 95 per cent of cases occur in those aged 50 or above.

■ The disease is on the increase, with a rise of around six per cent over the last decade. But death rates have dropped by about 14 per cent in that time.

■ In Europe, around 477,000 cases of bowel cancer were estimated to have been diagnosed in 2012.

■ The UK incidence is the 20th highest in Europe for men and the 17th highest for women.

■ Worldwide, an estimated 1.36 million cases of bowel cancer were diagnosed in 2012.

Information from Cancer Research UK



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HERE in Kent, thanks to the county's rich history, we are blessed with numerous picturesque villages and pretty country roads.

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Lorries getting stuck in lanes and travelling through barely passable streets has become an all-too-familiar sight, blighting the life of those who live there, and annoying fellow motorists who get caught in the queues created.

The problem is certainly not new.

Just a few years ago the issues were exacerbated by the boom in satellite navigation devices, which directed unsuitably large vehicles down perilously narrow roads.

Steps were taken to ease the problem, but unfortunately it remains.

The village of Leeds, near Maidstone, has been particularly badly affected, as motorists use it to skirt around the county town.

In one incident a lorry got jammed down a lane and had to be towed out backwards – blocking the road for three hours.

Now local politicians are demanding action from the police.

According to the Conservative Party councillor for the village, Peter Parvin, heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) flout the law regularly by driving along the road despite there being weight restrictions in force.

The consequence is damaged, as well as blocked, roads and verges.

Cllr Parvin, said: "This is quite literally destroying the village, with houses on the main road having serious problems because the lorries are damaging their foundations.

"The road isn't appropriate for trucks like these. We need something done about this issue, and we need it done now. We've seen lorries getting fixed penalty notices, but that hasn't stopped the problem.

"The only thing that will stop these drivers from using our road are some high-profile prosecutions."

The Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association (FTA) says the problem is worse in Kent than elsewhere due to the number of HGVs travelling through the county to and from the port of Dover.

Head of policy at the organisation is Natalie Chapman.

She said: "The vast majority of these vehicles stick to the motorways until they have left the county.

"But there has been a problem with large vehicles taking routes which aren't appropriate.

"One of the things we have done as the industry body is to get sat-nav makers to ensure the units they make for HGVs are programmable to ensure lorries and other large vehicles don't travel down roads which may have restrictions on them.

"Then it's up to the driver to put in the vehicle's height, weight and width and the sat-nav will show an appropriate route."

But that hasn't stopped some HGV drivers attempting to squeeze down country lanes which aren't appropriate for the size of their vehicles.

Harry Rayner, vice-chairman at the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) – the body representing parish and town councils in Kent – says there is a serious and widespread issue.

He told KoS: "The issue normally really rears its head at harvest time, when there are even more large vehicles making deliveries and taking



TRUCK TROUBLES: Councillors Peter Parvin (left) and Noel Ovenden (right) are demanding action; the FTA's Natalie Chapman says it has tried to help

The curse of the lorries is destroying our rural roads

HGVs getting stuck on country lanes and streets that are too narrow for them is a problem police must do more to tackle, infuriated villagers tell **Jamie Weir**

harvested crops away, but it happens throughout the year.

"KALC has heard of a number of incidents with HGVs being stuck down rural roads. However, it does change from year to year, with some parishes having issues which then clear up the next year as the problem moves somewhere else."

But Cllr Parvin disagrees, saying large vehicles have been ruining the road through Leeds for years.

He said: "Lorries get stuck in the main road regularly, and have done for years. One lorry got so badly stuck that it had to be towed out backwards. It took about three hours before the road was cleared."

Chief Inspector Matthew Kendall,

from Kent Police's roads policing unit, says the force is aware of the issue and does what it can.

He said: "We regularly carry out roadside checks and can issue fixed penalty notices to vehicles that exceed traffic weight limits.

"Breaches of these regulations can be due to drivers relying too heavily on their satellite navigation systems, but this is not an excuse.

"I would remind all motorists to always ensure the road ahead is suitable for the vehicle they are driving."

Traffic manager for Kent County Council, which has responsibility for the county's roads, is Andrew Westwood. He is hopeful a new scheme will help ease concerns.

He explained: "We have come up with the Kent Freight Action Plan which we are hopeful will solve this issue. It is a big problem in the county.

"We are working with sat-nav providers, alongside the FTA, to try and ensure everyone is aware of which roads are inappropriate for large vehicles, and where drivers can go.

"We have also developed a website called Freight Gateway which allows drivers to input their vehicle size and then find a route suitable for them.

"We are trying to help communities because we know this is a problem and it's important to make sure these vehicles are using roads which

are appropriate for them.

"There has been mixed success with the schemes we have run so far; some have worked really well, and others have struggled to make any noticeable difference."

The initiatives that Kent County Council has come up with so far have failed to make a big difference for many communities including Graveney, near Faversham.

Vicky Ellis, who lives in Graveney, said: "The Healdhill Road is particularly bad, with lorries getting stuck there often. The road has ended up being closed a few times, because when two lorries meet while driving down it, there's not much they can do.

"They can't back up easily, they can't turn around and the verges are shot to pieces, which means they just end up getting stuck.

"There are a lot of lorries making deliveries and picking things up from farms in the area, and also the caravan park."

The large vehicles making deliveries are something which the FTA says "we need to accept because of the rise in internet shopping", and it may well get worse.

Ms Chapman added: "As we see more shopping through the internet,

and larger numbers of goods being delivered, we are also seeing an increase in large vehicles ferrying these goods around the county.

"The rural economy is also meaning smaller roads are seeing an increase in large vehicles.

"Kent has a huge number of farms, and as we are seeing at the moment with harvesting, there are some pretty big agricultural vehicles, as well as lorries, which take to country lanes.

"All of the villages in Kent also need deliveries. The local pub needs its beer and local shops need their goods. Deliveries are just a by-product of that healthy local economy."

One road, described as the 'rat run from hell', is Bockham Lane between Wye and Hinxhill, near Ashford.

The Independent Party councillor for Wye, Noel Ovenden, says more needs to be done.

He said: "We are watching more and more HGVs using it as a countryside cut-through to get to Ashford and the M20.

"These are rural roads. They were never built for this type of traffic."

■ What do you think? Does your village suffer from this problem? Share your views and join the debate. Write to: The Editor, KoS, Kent House, 81 Station Road, Ashford TN23 1PP. Or email editorial@kos-media.co.uk.

“ We are working with sat-nav providers, alongside the FTA, to ensure everyone is aware of which roads are inappropriate for large vehicles ”

Andrew Westwood, Traffic manager for Kent County Council

Community digs deep to ensure miners' festival is another success, despite deluge

HUNDREDS of people braved the Bank Holiday Monday downpours to turn out for the sixth Kent Miners' Festival. The free annual festival, held this year at Tilmanstone Colliery Welfare Club in Eythorne, near Dover, celebrates the county's mining heritage – with a special focus this year on the industry's contribution to the First World War, to coincide with the centenary of the start of the conflict.

Not all the miners were able to go to war because of the increased need for coal for the Navy, but those who did often had a special job – using their underground expertise and endurance to dig tunnels under enemy lines to lay explosives.

Visitors were able to learn about the miners' wartime contribution and the history of mining in Kent in a marquee filled with displays, films, artefacts, photos, diagrams and stories, many curated by coalfield historian Jim Davies.

Ex-miners from each of Kent's four collieries – Tilmanstone, Betteshanger, Snowdown and

Chislet – were on hand to tell their tales.

Crowds were depleted – the festival normally attracts between 2,000 and 3,000 people – some of the stalls and sideshows did not turn up and performances on the stage had to be abandoned due to the risks of using electrical equipment in the rain.

But there was plenty of other entertainment; music from colliery bands, circus acts, ballet, jazz and tap dancers, boxing, a dog show and charity stands.

"It was great. People braved the weather throughout the day and had a wonderful time – the

mining heritage was the central attraction," said festival chairman Gary Cox.

"We put a few gazebos up and tried to keep people dry, and moved as much of the entertainment into the clubhouse as we could.

"It was a triumph of the community spirit that defines the former mining villages of east Kent. It's about giving something back to the community, and the community turned out. I felt as good and proud that night as I did after the first festival.

"I'd like to thank my committee and our visitors for their support."



SHOW WILL GO ON: The poor bank holiday weather couldn't dampen spirits at the annual Kent Miners' Festival held at Tilmanstone

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Week ending August 31, 2014 **27**



Getting your head around the brooding menace of depression

Following the tragic death of film star and comedian Robin Williams, the issue of depression has once again been cast into the spotlight. Reporter **Sarah Linney**, who herself has suffered from the mental illness, takes a look at the issues, how to spot the symptoms and where to go to get help...

IT was the summer of 1996, and I was 15, when one afternoon the thought came to me out of nowhere: "Is there really a good reason why you shouldn't end your own life, right now?"

I was blindsided. I had no idea where this had come from. Until that moment I had been an unquestioningly happy child.

But for the next eight months I muddled through a terrifying fog of internal misery, feeling that my existence was meaningless and unable to really enjoy anything, to feel the joy in life which had always come so easily to me.

Some would say a bit of an existential crisis is a normal part of being a teenager. But it went beyond that. I had no help, because I didn't know

any was available. Eventually it went away... but it came back to me in adulthood, more than once.

I could put a name to it, somehow, even back then. I knew I was depressed. But I didn't understand it, or know how to deal with it... and, even now, I still don't.

The death by suicide of the comedian Robin Williams, who had long suffered from depression, has thrown the illness into the spotlight once again.

According to KCA, which provides help to people with mental health problems across Kent and Medway and started life as the Kent Council on Alcohol, the condition is currently affecting an estimated 163,316 people in the county.

But what exactly is it?

Kerry Smith, KCA's assistant director of mental health, explains that it's more than just feeling a bit down.

"We all feel low from time to time, but sometimes those feelings are worse because they persist for longer," she said.

"It's a very common condition and people shouldn't feel like it's something that is stigmatised."

As Leila Hajipour-Sangtabi, group development worker with the Medway branch of the charity Rethink Mental Illness, points out, depression is a serious illness – despite being a word some of us use quite casually.

"Depression is when low mood is affecting your day-to-day life," Ms Hajipour-Sangtabi explained.

"It manifests itself in so many different ways with different people. You

may have little motivation or energy, or feelings of worthlessness and hopelessness.

"Then it becomes hard for people to do everyday things because they don't have the energy or motivation.

"People use it in everyday language. They say 'I'm a bit depressed,' so there's a misinterpretation about how serious it is."

Other symptoms can include losing interest in things you used to enjoy, feeling or being very tearful, or not wanting to see friends or family.

Sufferers of depression often experience low self-esteem and may feel very guilty or that they are no use to anyone.

There are often physical symptoms too: you may feel more tired, sleep more or have trouble sleeping, lose

your appetite or sex drive, eat more or suffer unexplained aches and pains.

Someone's personality can change and they may become irritable, angry, anxious, lethargic or indecisive – even when normally they are not like this at all.

Everyone experiences depression differently – which means that even if you have had it yourself, you don't necessarily understand what another sufferer is going through.

"Some people will struggle to get out of bed, others will find they cry over silly things," says Ms Smith.

"Maybe seeing or talking to people feels like too much, or you're having problems going into work.

"Often people suffering from depression find they can't cope with situations that they normally can cope

with quite well."

Ms Hajipour-Sangtabi adds: "It can definitely change people's behaviour.

"I studied drama at university, and the drama students were all very outgoing. We used to shout over each other in seminars.

"But when I suffered from depression I became very reserved. I wouldn't say my opinion unless the lecturer asked for it.

"My friends could always tell when something was wrong because I usually wear dresses and bright colours, but instead I would be in jeans and hoodies. I think it's great they picked up on that. Now whenever they see me in jeans and a hoodie they ask if I am okay!"

Out-of-character behaviour may partly be a result of the person struggling to deal with their thoughts, Ms Hajipour-Sangtabi says.

"So many conflicting things are going on in your head, and that can make you irritable, restless or angry," she explained.

"You can't control your thoughts and you don't know what to do with them, so you might have a lack of control over other things. It can feel a bit like you are drowning."

Sometimes depression has an identifiable cause – a bereavement, for example. Sometimes it's the result of life experiences which have gradually come to a head.

Sometimes there can seem to be no cause at all at first – and depression can affect absolutely anyone.

"You might think someone has a wonderful life and wonder what they have to be depressed about," Ms Hajipour-Sangtabi adds.

"But it's something a bit deeper than that and nothing to do with ma-

GETTING HELP...

- KCA self referrals: 0300 012 0012 www.kca.org.uk
- Rethink Mental Illness information and advice line: 0300 5000 927 (10am to 2pm weekdays)
- Rethink Medway Hope Project: 01634 331894
- Sue.Blanks@rethink.org
01634 331894 www.rethink.org
- Samaritans: 08457 909090
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www.samaritans.org
- Sane Line for mental health support: 0845 767 8000 (6pm to 11pm) www.sane.org.uk
- Mind (mental health charity): www.mind.org.uk
- NHS: www.nhs.uk
- Depression Alliance: www.depressionalliance.org
- CALM helpline for men at risk of suicide or who wish to talk to someone: 0800 5858585

For general health advice: www.liveitwell.org.uk

terial things. You could be world famous with lots of money, but if you are unhappy in yourself of course you are going to be depressed."

As if having such upsetting thoughts wasn't enough, depression is still a poorly understood condition by many people and sufferers sometimes find they are told to "pull themselves together" and "just get on with it" by family and friends who don't understand. This kind of response is neither helpful nor appropriate.

"It's nothing to do with trying harder. No-one wants to be depressed or feel worthless or hopeless, but



HELPER: Leila Hajipour-Sangtabi

sometimes you can't help it," Ms Hajipour-Sangtabi explains.

"If someone is told to try harder, that can make them feel they are not good enough. You feel like you're not as strong as everyone else.

"You can point out that, for example, someone has amazing kids or a fantastic husband or wife, and that everyone loves them very much – that could help lead to a turning point.

"But the main thing is never to get aggressive or confrontational."

Ms Smith agrees. "It can be a really debilitating condition and people will often need some outside help to deal with it," she said.

"You shouldn't feel ashamed to ask for help. If you had broken your leg, you would ask for help; you wouldn't expect it to heal by itself.

"I have worked in mental health for 13 years and I think the stigma around being depressed has really reduced in that time.

"More people are happy to come

forward and ask for help. But it is still difficult for some people to say they are not feeling okay."

The greatest danger, of course, is that depression can lead to tragedy if it is not dealt with.

Around 4,400 people end their own lives in England each year – one every two hours – and at least 10 times that number attempt suicide.

It is estimated that 90 per cent of those people are suffering from depression or other mental health problems.

Three quarters of those who die by suicide are men and the risk rises with age – the highest risk group in the UK are the over-75s, but suicide is also a common cause of death in men under 35.

If someone you know is talking about suicide you must take them seriously, Ms Hajipour-Sangtabi says.

"If you think someone is suicidal, ask them about it," she said.

"People think mentioning it will put the idea in their head, but if someone is suicidal the idea will already be in their head. Just giving them that space to be listened to, to talk without being interrupted, is a big thing.

"If you think they have made plans to do it, encourage them to go and see someone about it, or call the emergency services or your doctor. The only thing not to do is ignore it."

Again, people who don't understand depression might call suicide a selfish thing to do – but it should never be viewed that way, Miss Hajipour-Sangtabi says.

"What could possibly be going through that person's head that they feel so hopeless that it is the only way out?" she said. "It's not selfish – it's a way of coping with what's going on. People say it's attention seeking, but

no-one goes into suicide with the intention that they are going to survive."

The good news is there is plenty of help out there for people with depression and a number of options, including medication, talking therapies, cognitive behavioural therapy (which aims to help you change negative thought patterns) and support groups.

For many people their GP is the first port of call, but you can also contact KCA yourself for help without going through your GP.

The organisation offers all the types of therapy mentioned above and can work with you over the phone or face to face – and it's funded by the NHS, so you won't have to pay.

"There is a choice of things to suit different people. Some people only need to see us for a few weeks, some people might need to see us for a bit longer," Ms Smith explains.

And, while it's not just a case of pinning on a smile and telling yourself to cheer up, there are also things you can do to help yourself.

Poor diet is known to worsen depression and exercise is proven to help.

"Going for a walk, listening to music, being around other people, finding a hobby – these things can all help," Ms Hajipour-Sangtabi says.

"There is always help out there and they will find the right thing for you. Don't give up."

"About 75 to 80 per cent of people who have come to see us will feel demonstrably better at the end of therapy, and 50 per cent will be clinically recovered," Ms Smith added.

"It is okay to want help and please do ask for help if you need it. People shouldn't feel that they are alone."

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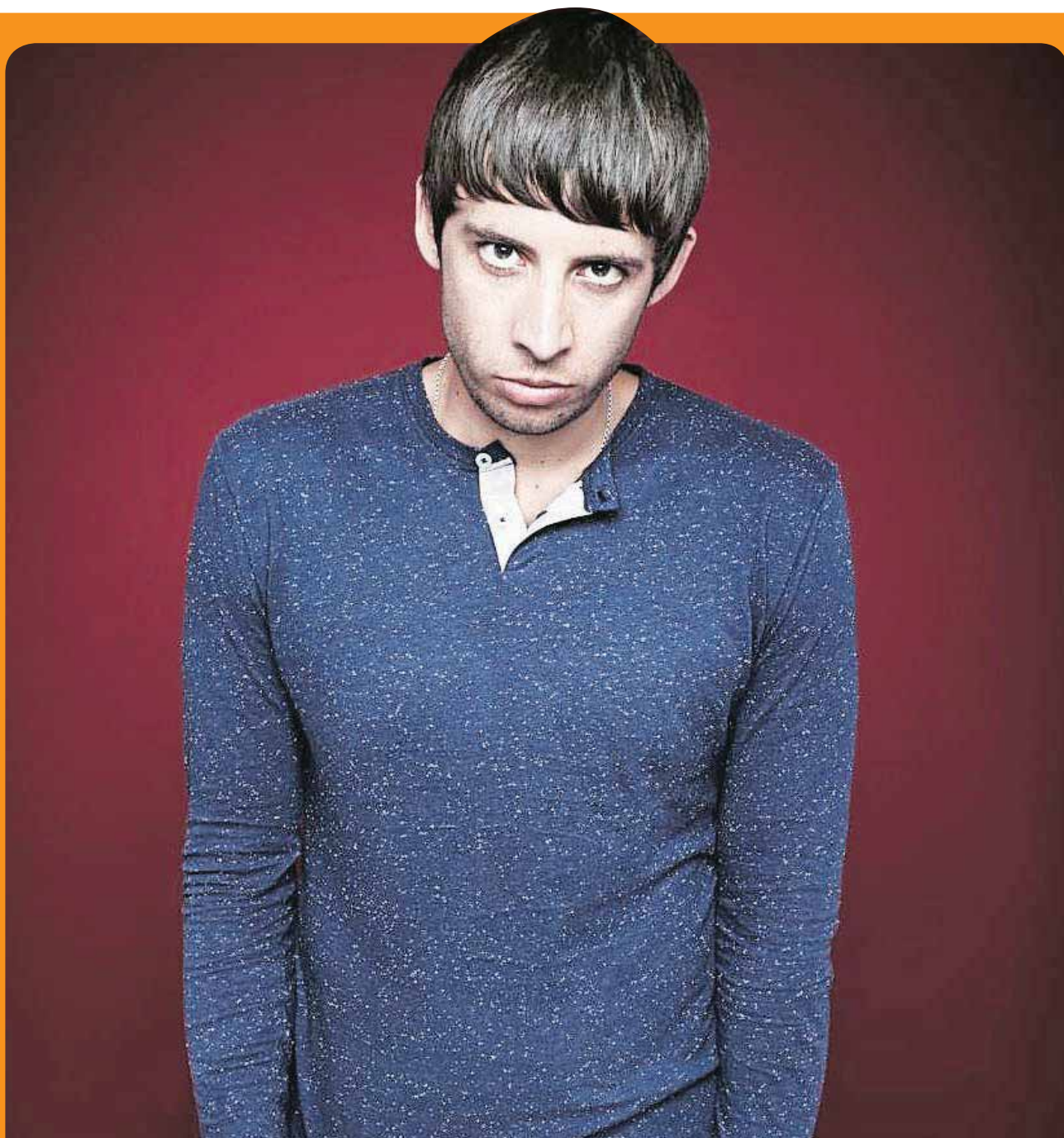
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Example goes old school

Rapper, songwriter and soon-to-be father brings new tour to Kent, but this time he's hand-picked the venues to get closer to his fans, as **Simon Redley** reports

HE'S opened for the likes of Justin Timberlake, has had two number one singles, sold hundreds of thousands

of albums, and after marrying a model, last month announced he was set to become a father for the first time.

For rapper, singer, songwriter and producer Example, his time in the sun is right now.

And in November he will grace the stage of Margate's Winter Gardens – the latest big name to head to the coastal venue.

It is one of the stops on a 27-date UK tour which begins in October, with all venues personally hand-picked by the star, whose real name is Elliot Gleave.

He explains: "We could go back and do arenas, but I thought rather than do that, let's put the effort in and do a proper old school tour."

"I think there are about 10 venues I have never played before; bearing in mind I have been touring since 2004, and have done probably 2,000 shows."

One of the last times he was in the county was for Lounge on the

Farm back in 2011 – performing on the main stage at the popular Canterbury event.

He said: "It's going to be pretty exciting. It's all about hitting up every part of the country. There's certain people who just can't afford to travel to gigs, so it's nice they can just get the bus or walk down to the place."

So how does the 32-year-old prepare for a gruelling trek around the UK scheduled across two months?

"I am always flying from one place to another. In July I did 23

gigs in 30 days and took 27 flights.

"If I get two months off, which is very rare, I'll get in and rehearse with the band, but in general I like to keep fit; because 90 minutes on stage four or five times a week, you have to be fit for that."

"I do vocal warm-ups and stretches, because I injured myself a few years ago and had to cancel a load of gigs."

Back in September 2012, he tore his Achilles tendon and on doctor's orders was forced to rest; wearing

Continued on page 33 »

» Features team

Editor: Dave Mairs
dave.mairs@archant.co.uk
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An underwater scene with a blue background. At the top, the text 'SO MUCH TO SEE' is written in a bubbly, blue font. Below it, the words 'UNDER THE SEA' are written in a large, purple, blocky font. The scene is populated with various sea creatures: a large shark on the left, a lionfish on the top left, several colorful clownfish, a yellow and black striped fish, a blue and white striped fish, a large octopus on the right, and a large squid on the bottom right. The water is clear with some bubbles.

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a brace on his lower leg and foot and applying ice packs six times a day for two weeks. These days, he takes fitness seriously.

He also reveals that all-night drinking sessions and crazy partying for him and his band are not on the agenda during this tour.

"We don't really get too drunk; but we might open a bottle of whisky and have a sip each," he said. "We call it 'band prayer'. But we don't do anything outlandish or outrageous these days."

Which may be well timed as last month he announced that he and his

66 People paying to see a gig don't want to hear some weird cover or a track released seven years ago no-one bought 99

wife – the Australian model and actress Erin McNaught, are expecting their first child.

The couple have long since discussed moving to Australia to be closer to her family, being quoted before as saying they'll look to move by 2018 at the latest.

However, the pregnancy could hasten their move.

"If I'm totally honest," he admits, "I have achieved more than I ever thought I would. I am still ambitious, but I think I've adjusted my goals purely because I am married now and I've got a kid on the way."

But for now his focus is on the tour. He relishes the chance to be able to

see the faces of his fans at these shows, compared to the huge arena shows where he can be a good distance away from most of the crowd.

"When I go overseas, I am not as big in certain countries as I am in the UK, so you end up playing in front of sometimes 300 to 800 people, and you think, 'I like being that close to people'. It is easier to get your energy out to them and that spreads across the venue."

"You can see everyone's face, rather than in an arena where someone at the back looks like an ant."

Example promises fans he is not going to bombard them with obscure songs and loads of new stuff they do not know, and they can be sure he'll be singing all his hits.

These will include his two top 10 singles from the second studio album *Won't Go Quietly*, the title track and *Kickstarts*; his two number one singles, *Changed the Way You Kiss Me* and *Stay Awake*; and his chart hits from the current album *Live Life Living*, which was released in July: *All The Wrong Places*, *Kids Again* and *One More Day (Stay with Me)*.

"People paying to see a gig don't want to hear some weird cover of something or a track released seven years ago that no-one bought," he adds.

The rush for tickets is likely to underline that belief.

■ **Example will perform at the Margate Winter Gardens on November 3. Tickets cost £27.50 (plus booking fees) and are available on general sale now. To book, visit the venue website at www.margatewintergardens.co.uk or calling the box office on 01843 292795.**



SPLASH LANDING: Elliot Gleave, aka Example, wants this tour to be a more personal experience for his followers

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CIRCLE LINE-UP: The five-day Roundabout Festival takes place in a specially created amphitheatre and will be hosted inside Margate's Winter Garden

Seaside freebies worth a look... but be quick!

Pop-up amphitheatre promises package of events to keep the family entertained

A POP-UP arts festival is set to take Margate by storm when it flies in to the Winter Gardens next week.

The Roundabout Festival promises five days of fun-packed, non-stop events, with a programme including comedy, theatre, dance and other events for the whole family.

Held at the Margate Winter Gardens, it takes place in a specially created pop-up amphitheatre.

The amphitheatre, which was first used at the Edinburgh Festival this month, can seat 168 people, and packs away into a single truck,

allowing it to 'pop up' wherever organisers want. Many of the events at the festival are free.

The Roundabout Tea Dance is one of the free events and promises a participatory, fun three hours for those who love dance.

Authentic jazz and swing music from the 1920s to the 1950s will be paired with what organisers are calling an instant dance class for everyone to enjoy.

And if you love to sing, then the Sing World Music workshop will be perfect for you. The events are free to everyone, with professional group Maddie4Music teaching participants

a range of songs from around the globe.

For those who prefer to just watch, the festival will also be showcasing some of the hottest new plays, with Lungs, written by Duncan Macmillan, described as "the most beautiful, shattering play of the year" by one critic. The tale tells of a couple who want a child, but are running out of time in a world which is slowly falling apart.

For slightly younger audiences, the play Our Teacher's a Troll, by Dennis Kelly, who wrote Matilda the Musical, promises plenty of laughs for those aged seven and above.

The lead characters in the story, two terrible twins, have to save the school from the child-eating troll, while simultaneously working to get Brussels sprouts in peanut butter taken off the cafeteria menu.

Organisers have promised there will be something for everyone, no matter what age, at the festival, which takes place between September 3-7.

To see the full line-up and find out ticket prices for events which are charging, you can call the Margate Winter Gardens box office on 01843 292795 or visit www.margatewintergardens.co.uk.

Please tell us more, Sir Roger

TICKETS for an audience with former 007 Sir Roger Moore are selling fast, as he prepares for a show at Canterbury's Marlowe Theatre.

The legend of the big and small screen will be discussing his life and career at the show on Sunday, September 14.

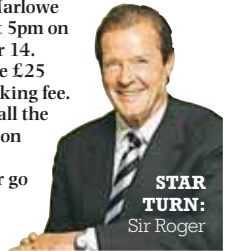
Stories and anecdotes will cover his time on hit TV shows The Saint and The Persuaders, as well as his 12-year stint as James Bond.

Gareth Owen, who has previously interviewed Sir Roger at the BFI Southbank, the Barbican Centre and various Unicef fundraisers throughout Europe, will host the talk.

The author of 11 books, Owen has worked with Sir Roger on his autobiography My Word Is My Bond, Bond On Bond and the upcoming Last Man Standing: Tales From Tinseltown, released next month.

The show includes an audience Q&A where attendees have the opportunity to put their own question to the Hollywood legend.

An Evening With Sir Roger Moore is at the Marlowe Theatre at 5pm on September 14. Tickets are £25 plus a booking fee. To book call the box office on 01227 787787 or go to marlowetheatre.com.



STAR TURN:
Sir Roger

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Enjoy 4 nights bed and breakfast at the Best Weston Gleneagles, located in an upmarket residential area of Torquay. It is also famous for being the inspiration behind Fawlty Towers (with memorabilia decorating the reception (but rest assured the hotel has been dramatically updated since then). Your stay is packed with entertainment, including a 1st evening drinks reception, tea and cake on day two, a treasure hunt and tea and mince pies on day 3 and a 'New Year's Eve' party on the last night.



Birmingham Tattoo

Friday 28th November 2014 - £175.00

The Birmingham Tattoo features traditional military music, field gun racing, dancers, gymnastics and one of the largest gatherings of standard bearers on parade. There's so much to enjoy here, whether it's browsing prestigious boutiques at leisure for great-value buys, or sampling fine food and drink in the Village's cafés and restaurants.

2 nights stay with dinner, bed and breakfast includes with a choice of menu available. Birmingham Tattoo tickets in the mid-section arena. On our way home we will be stopping at the Bicester Shopping Village for some free time where you can discover a relaxed shopping haven in the beautiful Oxfordshire countryside, where boutiques showcase the world's leading fashion and lifestyle brands with fabulous savings all year round. Shopping is pure pleasure at Bicester Village.

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Hop along and enjoy popular town festival's silver anniversary celebrations

MORE than 40,000 people are set to descend on Faversham this weekend for one of the highlights of the town's calendar.

The Faversham Hop Festival is on now, with displays, parades and attractions.

This year, its 25th, it intends to be more family orientated, with four live music stages and performances in pubs around town, plus Morris dancing and a host of other dance troupes.

And to mark its silver anniversary, there will be special celebrations of the area's heritage in the hop industry, which goes back more than 800 years.

These will tell the story of the 'hoppers' who came down from the east end of London, and elsewhere in the county, to harvest the hops.

Many of their descendants still live in the area and the link is emphasised by the inclusion of Pearly Kings and Queens in the festival parades.

Organisers are urging all those attending to use a special park-and-ride bus service to get into the town – or to take the train.

To ease the strain, extra parking has been laid on at the Abbey School



MORE THE MERRIER: Faversham Hop Festival culminates this weekend with a packed programme of events

on the edge of town, with historic buses laid on to get you into the heart of the action.

Those parking at the school can then buy a wristband from stewards entitling them to unlimited use of the bus that day. The service should run every 10 to 15 minutes, depending on traffic, and will do a circuit of the town.

Event manager Bill Fowler said: "Visitors can take the bus or walk into town – it's only a 10-minute stroll.

"The bus service is designed to ease the strain in the town centre as the main car park will be housing a Ferris wheel and our Harry the Hop fun area."

Harry the Hop is the event's new mascot.

On Sunday, the parade begins at 10.30am in Preston Street and will include the ceremonial rolling of two tubs of beer, which will be blessed by the Vicar of Faversham, the Reverend Simon Rowlands, at a service in St Mary's Church.



Seaside talent show fitting finale

THE week-long Herne Bay Festival comes to an end this weekend with a special talent show.

A free firework display will take place on Saturday night before Herne Bay's Got Talent closes the festival, now in its 22nd year, on Sunday.

This year's theme has been 'Take to the Skies', with a varied nine-day programme of more than 80 free events, alongside a rich mixture of community and arts events.

The festival was created in 1993, as part of a town centre management initiative aiming to celebrate the town and bring the community and businesses closer together.

Its popularity has made it one of the most successful community focused events in Kent. See www.hernebayfestival.com for details.

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As well as the pub's attractive exterior – The Aviator has won the Queensborough in Bloom competition three years running – the inside features

a treasure trove of the area's fascinating role in the history of powered flight.

Authentic uniforms, photographs and artefacts tell the story of how Sheppey was a home of the early flying pioneers such as Charles S Rolls, the Wright brothers and the Short brothers, as well as the Eastchurch Naval Flying School and the Gordon Bennett Air Race.

The pub has occasional live music and supports local darts

and football teams. There is a charity quiz night each Monday and The Aviator hosts a beer festival each August which raises money for local good causes.

The Aviator serves a choice of traditional Kentish cask ales, distinctive international lagers and a good wine selection.

There is a large garden, where up to 40 customers can enjoy al fresco dining and a large children's play area.



The Aviator
Queensborough Corner
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01795 666094
Shepherd-Neame.com
Aviator@Shepherd-Neame.co.uk

Christmas at Chiquitos

HERE AT CHIQUITO we're passionate about food! Our dishes are made with the tastiest of ingredients, packed full of flavour to really tantalise your taste buds. Whether you're looking for a tasty treat or a light bite, Chiquito is the place to be!

We are the perfect place to go for an excellent Christmas party, and if you book before the end of October the party organiser will eat for free (based on terms and conditions)

Our Christmas menu is available to view online, but we have a wide selection of Starters, Mains and Dessert to choose from. The starters include Nachos, Potato Skins or Halloumi Mushrooms (v), and for the main you can have Traditional Christmas Dinner, Peri Peri Chicken or one of the many other options available, with a fine selection of desserts to choose from.



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01843 579320

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Medway Valley Leisure Park, Chariot Way, Rochester, Kent ME2 2SS
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A Feast in Faversham

SITUATED FOUR MILES outside Faversham in the small village of Hernhill, The Red Lion is a 14th century inn, with a rustically wonderful interior of flagstones and beams. To the side is a large garden with a children's play area and a car park. In the colder months you can sit in front of our log fire. Upstairs is the new beautiful beamed Champagne Bar and function room available for functions and meetings.

There is a selection of cask ales and kegs beers and cider to suit all, plus good wines and soft drinks. Food is served every lunchtime and evening - except Christmas Day. The food is home cooked, tasty and plentiful, and you can choose from the main menu or from the specials. Lunchtime snacks are available, for those wanting a smaller meal, everyday except on Sunday when roasts of pork, beef and lamb, is on the menu.



The Red Lion

Crockham Lane, Hernhill, Faversham, ME13 9JR
01227 751207
www.theredlion.org

CHEF RECOMMENDS

Waggon at Hale

179 Capstone Road, Chatham, Kent ME5 7PP
Telephone: 01634 400800
www.waggonathale.com

Starter: Duck and Orange Pate

served with toasted baguette and bramley apple and cider chutney

Main: Waggon Ultimate Burger, a handmade 1/2lb beef burger on a Kentish Huffkin, a bucket of gourmet chips and homemade coleslaw

Dessert: Cookie Dough & Ice cream served warm and drizzled in chocolate sauce

Jalsha Tandoori

169-171 Station Road, Sidcup, Kent DA15 7AA
Telephone: 0208 3000777

Starter: Hot Margh Chat Mossala

Main: Nargis Chicken

Dessert: Fantastica Crisp Chocolate Base layered with Dairy Vanilla & Caramel Ice Cream

The Aviator

Queensborough Corner, Sheerness, Kent ME12 3DJ
Telephone: 01795 666094
shepherd-neame.com

Starter: Frito Misto, lightly dusted whitebait & Calamari, mixed salad leaves & a dunking pot of citrus mayonnaise

Main: The Aviator Pulled Beef Chilli Pot, slowly cooked for richness & topped with melted cheddar served with tortillas, spicy Mexican salad, rice and traditional Mexican accompaniment

Dessert: Warm American Pancakes, two layered pancakes, smothered in warm banana, Nutella & toasted nuts, finished with vanilla ice cream.

The Red Lion

Church Hill, Hernhill, Faversham, Kent ME13 9JR
Telephone: 01227 751207
www.theredlion.org

Starter: Pork Belly Bites

Main: Hickory home smoked brisket with a bourbon peppercorn sauce, served with wedges and salad.

Dessert: Strawberries and cream

DJ BBQ puts new spin on old tradition

We Brits and our cousins from across The Pond differ in countless ways: they say 'tom-ay-to', we say 'tom-ah-to'. And when it comes to cooking outdoors, our American counterparts are far more daring, as **Kate Whiting** found out

AFTER last Monday's bank holiday wash-out, for many the barbecue is being wheeled back into the shed as the summer begins to morph into autumn.

But one American is trying to make the traditional outside grill a year-round experience.

Christian Stevenson explained: "Brits are embracing barbecuing, but the supermarkets aren't helping.

"People think, 'summer equals BBQ', but that's not the case. Barbecuing should be 365 days a year and the supermarkets need to stock charcoal or wood all year long."

The 46-year-old father-of-three, nicknamed DJ BBQ, is a bundle of energy who's been living in the UK for 18 years.

His background is presenting extreme sports, but he also DJs and barbecues (hence the nickname) at festivals around the country, cooking and mixing tunes for up to 20 hours a time in what he calls 'catertainment'.

He's now making a big impression on Jamie Oliver's Food Tube online video network, with his larger-than-life personality and star-spangled catsuits earning him thousands of hits.

"My favourite Food Tube videos are the brisket, which is an 18-hour cook, and bacon firebombs. We shot those in November and it was chucking down with rain.

"Everyone said, 'what are you doing?'. But even though it's England and it rains a lot here, this is what I do."

Stevenson learned to barbecue when he was just eight years old from his dad, who learned from his father before him – and their recipes are among those that feature in his new cookbook, *The BBQ Book*.

"My grandparents were great cooks," he explains, "so when my grandfather passed away, my father went to all his siblings and asked for all the recipes, and made a

book for everyone in the family of Grandma and Grandpa's recipes, so there's a couple of them in there as well."

Listening to him talk, it's almost impossible not to drool, especially when he describes his favourite dish.

"Whenever I went travelling, my father would have the same recipe waiting for me: two flank or skirt steaks in a big ziplock with a bottle of Italian dressing, something you buy in the grocery store, and you shake it up and throw it in there.

"The vinegar would tenderise the meat and then he'd get the charcoal cooking and throw a bunch of potatoes in there and he'd grill that piece of meat and slice it, and that, to me, is the taste of coming home," he says.

"And it's something everybody always loves. They can't believe that Italian dressing can make that piece of meat taste that perfect, but it's got

“My favourite Food Tube videos are the brisket, which is an 18-hour cook, and bacon firebombs. We shot those in November and it was chucking down”

the oils, the peppers, the vinegars, it's the perfect marinade and it's easy.

"And then I always do more potatoes than I need because the next day, I make home fries, so onions, peppers, chorizo, crack an egg on there, so I've got breakfast with these smokey potatoes."

He's excited to be spreading the barbecue love through his Food Tube channel and learning more techniques.

"I'm enjoying this new world," he says. "I've just spent a week in Portugal visiting all my friends in their restaurants and learning a whole bunch of new recipes."

HOT DAWG: Christian Stevenson wants to make barbecuing an all-year-round experience for people in Britain



Can Ambrette pack a punch within the city's historic walls?

The Ambrette

Location: Canterbury

By Chris Thomson

THINK it was Public Enemy who once urged us all not to believe the hype.

And when it comes to restaurants, it is easy to be dazzled by a reputation or a well oiled PR machine, only to be underwhelmed by the reality.

The Ambrette's reputation certainly precedes it. We seem to be informed of every big and small event in its life, and owner Dev Biswal has even acquired minor celebrity chef status.

So when it was announced it was adding to its acclaimed Margate

outlet with one in Canterbury, it created something of a stir.

Could he transfer the fusion of east meets Kent, which has defined him thus far, to the cathedral city?

Housed in what was once the Beer Cart Arms pub, tucked away behind the bustling pedestrianised area, this is not merely a swanky curry house.

This is, and be in no doubt, fine dining. The influence of the sub-continent is there, but deployed over traditional, locally sourced, seasonal food. The blend is intoxicating.

There's none of the creamy stodge which can leave you emerging from

a classic curry dish feeling almost drunk on fat; just well seasoned, beautifully cooked foods which can excite even wimps like me who shy away from anything too spicy under normal circumstances, and instead deliver an almost excited sweat through the deft kick of the eastern flavourings.

The breast of wood pigeon for a starter, is smoked with cloves and marjoram; the meat so tender it was melt in your mouth and flavoured in a way which will melt your heart.

The main course, Kentish pork

with roast beetroot and spiced apple chutney, was perhaps the embodiment of what this establishment tries to do – local, seasonal produce cooked in that particular style.

The presentation was first class, the service exceptional.

There was barely a moment to ever think 'where's the waiter' before they appeared, like the shopkeeper in Mr Benn, ready to talk us through the menu, or deliver appetisers and small additional little treats between each course.

Three courses and wine for two,

came to around £90.

My preconceptions, if truth be told, were that I would find the Ambrette a trifle disappointing after all the hype. I could not be more wrong.

It not only lives up to the hype but it establishes itself as a truly exceptional dining experience. First class.

■ **The Ambrette**
14-15 Beer Cart Lane
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Web: www.theambrette.co.uk
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Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances, and a daytime phone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit all letters.

Feeling pinch of green belt laws

HONESTLY, I am amazed at the misinformation espoused by J Redbridge ('Countryside is under threat from Tories', KoS letters, 24.08).

The National Planning Policy Framework, which I presume the writer is referring to in terms of the Government's new planning laws, still maintains the same presumption against building in the green belt as the existing planning laws.

Indeed in my experience, district councils, due to a slight panic reaction, are strengthening their policies to shut off the tiniest loophole that may lead to any application for development in the green belt.

I have applied for a new house in an area classed as green belt only to be categorically turned down by the local council and at appeal.

The area in question is anything but lovely, but it is washed over by the ridiculous generalised green belt and therefore in terms of planning law a non-starter.

It's strange that historically we built houses in what is now the green belt; small villages, individual houses, but for some reason now it is anathema to do so.

The result of not allowing small developments in these areas is that the only option then is to cram more and more houses into confined spaces.

While this situation continues, my two children, both in their mid-20s with quite reasonable jobs – one a doctor, the other a civil engineer – live at home with no chance of buying a property due to the attitudes of rather selfish individuals like J Redbridge.

T Williams, Chipstead

Town not the only port in WWI storm

IN your article regarding the Great War's injured (KoS, 24.08) it states, regarding Folkestone: "Tragically, it was also the port where the casualties returned." This is incorrect.

Fewer than 2,000 casualties came into Folkestone, whereas, during the course of the war, 1,260,506 sick and wounded were landed at Dover and 1,234,248 at Southampton, from where they were sent on special ambulance trains to at least 195 railway stations throughout the country and thence to local hospitals.

What should also be mentioned is that troops and war material departed from other ports including

LETTER OF THE WEEK



Governors' decision just 'city-centric' bias

IT IS a huge disappointment and a massive missed opportunity that the governors of Barton Court Grammar in Canterbury have decided not to pursue the prospect of a move to a new school in Herne Bay.

I have stated, and believe, that this was a once-in-a-generation opportunity to provide the young people of the coastal strip with a dedicated grammar school, and to redress the imbalance between the city – which currently has three selective schools – and the coast which has none.

It is rarely, if ever, a developer is willing to offer the combination of donated land and supporting sports facilities to enable a school to move from premises that are no longer fit for purpose to a new location.

The headteacher at Barton Court, Kirstin Cardus, has courageously pursued the project in the best interests of her school and both current and future pupils.

In taking a negative decision I believe the governors have presented the staff and pupils with a future in accommodation which will be unable to meet the needs of a growing number of

students and difficult if not impossible to modernise.

They have additionally condemned the increasing number of potential pupils from Herne Bay and Whitstable requiring selective education to continuing and unnecessary journeys, and considerable expense in time and money.

I am fully aware the funding gap was, to say the least, challenging. But challenges are there to be met, not to be run away from, and had the governors taken a positive and robust decision then I am sure Kent County Council, under its present or a new leadership, would have stepped up to the mark and helped us to realise the potential of this opportunity.

That, combined with other potential funding streams, could have turned an ambition into a reality.

I shall continue to seek to promote the cause of a coastal grammar school, but I cannot pretend the task has not been made more difficult by what I regard as a city-centric and short-sighted decision.

Sir Roger Gale, Thanet North (including Herne Bay) MP

Dover and Richborough, but more importantly Southampton, which was the number one embarkation port for personnel and material, and from where 4,822,280 troops and 20,570 nursing sisters embarked, as

well as 799,870 horses and mules.

From Newhaven and Littlehampton alone 6,805,180 tonnes of war material were sent to France.

Folkestone played a huge part in the First World War, but it should be

seen in relation to the role of other ports and towns in the country, who also played their own part in a variety of ways.

Nick Spurrier, by email

Pension disparity tells its own story

YOUR article on public sector bosses' pay (KoS 17.08) missed one very important issue, in that costs do not end with retirement.

Anybody that has worked for the Government in any shape or form seems to do extraordinarily well at retirement, with pay-offs and pensions that those in the private sector can only dream about.

One could argue that because of these very high costs to the Treasury, those in private industry have to suffer a low government state pension rate as their only income.

I realise many public employees pay into a pension scheme, (which is pretty cast iron, unlike the variances and conflicting pay-outs of private pension schemes), but that in no way reflects the very generous pensions that are paid out.

Terry Hudson, Whitstable

Major parties set a terrible example

THE last Labour government got us £1 trillion in debt, plus spending billions of pounds more on private finance initiatives (PFI).

They overloaded our country with millions of immigrants; they invaded Iraq, leaving it a mess and a continuing threat, as well as stirring up other areas of the world.

Their 'legacy' left this country weakened, divided and broke.

The Tories have continued to take the debt up to £1.3tn and continued to stir up the Middle East.

They made false promises to get elected, are still allowing 220,000-plus immigrants a year to cause a housing crisis, brought in a 'bed-room tax' with no thought for people's circumstances, or the fact that there is no other housing for them to go to.

The three main parties have been involved in numerous scandals, with expenses, sexual shenanigans, fraud, corruption, bribery, insulting minorities, etc and then people like H Smith [KoS letters, 24.08] have the audacity to ask whether Ukip is a credible force in politics!

How ever could they be any worse?

The other parties have taken this country to a place we no longer recognise.

Phil Granger, West Malling

KOS 10 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

AS part of our commitment to providing the best service to you, we have produced our 10 guiding principles which tie in with our parent company Archant's overall mission statement.

Archant's mission statement is: "We bring together motivated buyers and sellers through the creation of unique and compelling content and community expertise." This is summed up in the strapline 'Inspiring Communities'.

The way KoS will create our unique and compelling content is to follow these 10 principles: **Kent on Sunday will:**

- 1) Be available in every postcode in Kent.
- 2) Be fair, accurate and balanced.
- 3) Be written in clear, concise English.
- 4) Not be overly sensational.
- 5) Have a sense of humour.
- 6) Have an easily understood division between

- 7) news, comment and advertising.
- 8) Seek to celebrate as well as constructively criticise.
- 9) Highlight topical issues of concern to people living in the county.
- 10) Spotlight individual cases which raise broader concerns.
- 11) Champion causes that it feels are important to the well-being of the county and its people.



Wood carving in Canterbury

by **Christina Giles**
from Canterbury

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PETITE slim blonde 39yrs, pretty big blue eyes, looking for similar easygoing older male to put a spark back into my life, enjoy nights in/out and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412327 ☺

CHRISTINA, curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home, very very adventurous seeks no strings fun and frolics. Can accommodate and will answer all calls. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 410127

WIDOW 70, lonely, seeking gent, 70-75 to bring a bit of sparkle back in life, likes theatre, cinema. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412475 ☺

JAMES, 45yrs, solvent caring gent, recently divorced seeks genuine lady to wine and dine. Single mums welcome. Box 4459441 Text only ☺

KATIE 60 old pretty slim blue eyed blonde looking for evening entertainment with open-minded discreet guy, any age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412319 ☺

GILLY, voluptuous well groomed lady, seeks man to massage and pamper. Married exciting men please apply. Tel No: 0905 002 1933 Box No: 412933

FEMALE seeking male for adult fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 413809 ☺

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1961 Box No: 405297

68YR old widow, seeking company of a male, 68-75 for friendship, likes cinema, theatre, nights in, meals out, seaside walks. Wants someone to help me love again. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 413689 ☺

LINDY, 43yrs young, married with husband away. Seeks discreet gent any age/area for no strings. Box 4459439 Text only ☺

BBW 51, caring, solvent, seeks male of similar age for fun times and socialising. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 413621

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 366019

FEMALE 38, attractive, African, single mum, seeks male, 35-50 for nights out, socialising, friendship and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412793

JENNI, sensual lady, 23yrs seeks mature experienced man for no strings, daytime fun. Box 4459440 Text only ☺

MARY 5ft 6in size 12 blonde, nice personality, good conversationalist, interesting, lots of interests. WLTm likeminded caring, happy male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412169 ☺

FELICITY professional female, 32yrs, blonde, curvy fun, Travels a lot and wltm chap for occasional fun on my travels. Text only Box: 4459438 ☺

ANN, young looking 40yrs seeks broadminded man of any age/location for no strings discreet times, games and more. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 412369

SUSIE divorced married lady, young 36yrs seeks undiscreet times with man any age or area, all texts answered. Text only Box: 4459437 ☺

JANE 29yr old horsey female, loves the outdoors, cycling, as well as duvet days, WLTm not too serious male for a hopefully normal relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412315 ☺

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SLIM petite, attractive brunette, 56, British/Russian origin, excellent cook/home maker, seeks cultured male for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412129

CATHY happy independent female looking for her soul mate, someone to spend quality time but who also likes their own space. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409909 ☺

CLARE 36yrs successful single mum, independent, employed with OH/AC, size 10, green eyes, pretty, likes swimming, family life, seeking male with similar values and interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412053 ☺

SHARON 32yrs and still soul searching for Mr Right, I enjoy keeping in shape, caring for people, seeking loving respectful guy who also knows a good time. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412049 ☺

LINDA 37, green eyes, attractive, bubbly size 12, enjoys cosy nights in, text chats, seeking tallish fun guy for meals out, pubs, clubs and spending quality times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411033 ☺

64YR old lady, seeking male for friendship, companionship, outings and interesting conversation. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411975

CAROLINE 39yr old pretty blonde looking for handsome caring male to put the sparkle back into my life and make each other feel special. Call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411891 ☺

33YR old sick of being single working mum, OH/AC, likes the simple things in life, looking for romantic, honest guy with GSOH for cosy nights in and fun nights out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411887 ☺

CINDY 31 attractive, size 12 brown eyed blonde, new to this but sick of passing up potential soul mate so thought I'd give it a go. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411873 ☺

RITA divorced care worker with no ties, 5ft 11ins, dark hair, enjoys meals out, cosy nights in, seeking male 45-55 with GSOH and similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411775 ☺

JANET 5ft 8ins, slim 12, pretty, green eyes, brown hair, seeking male companion for friendship hopefully leading to a relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411689 ☺

LYN 34yrs, pretty petite dark haired female, loves music, meals out, quiet drinks out, seeking caring male with GSOH who can make me feel special again. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410137 ☺

MELANIE tall curvy attractive bubbly female who loves meals out, cosy nights in with a nice wine, walking, seeks professional male with outgoing GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411509 ☺

FREYA 33 6ft blonde, loves dancing and have a good time, employed, own home, one son, seeking similar laidback guy/dad for dates, chats and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412045 ☺

MARILYN really nice curvy tactile female, loves romantic walks, cosy nights in, quality times, looking for nice male to spend time and fall in love with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411871 ☺

JAN 5ft 6ins, dark hair/eyes, nice smile, likes music, travel, countryside, animals, employed, OH/AC, looking for companionship complete, hope you're out there. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411865 ☺

SARAH 25 petite slim attractive blonde student, enjoys keeping fit, looking good, socialising, going out, being a mum WLTm similar fun genuine guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411537 ☺

JULIE attractive outgoing female with a very young attitude, loves running, living life, travel, WLTm someone special to make my life complete, hope you're out there. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411513 ☺

CATHY very much a lady seeks gent up to 62yrs who would appreciate an independent professional sassy female who loves to be wooed, dined and romanced. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410301 ☺

SUSAN seeking nice male, medium build, 35, easygoing, likes music, nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406779 ☺

JEWISH widow, 67, loves animals, seeks genuine, Jewish gent, 60-73 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410547

CAROLINE blonde curvy very active lady who loves to socialise, countryside, seeking similar caring male for LTR and to share good times with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409413 ☺

RACHEL 39, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 6ins, bubbly, outgoing, naughty, busy, divorced, seeks male for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410835 ☺

SUE optimistic divorced lady with OH/AC, good job, enjoys meals out, cinema, countryside, pub lunches, looking for likeminded outgoing happy male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410467 ☺

RETIRED male, seeks attractive female for friendship and fun, any age/status/colour, East Kent, can travel. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 413133 ☺

AMIALE intelligent male, 77, light smoker, seeks slim lady for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 413127 ☺

MATURE male, looking for discreet meetings with female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 413039 ☺

FRANK 54, 5ft 10ins, blue eyes, blond hair, smoker, seeking friendship with mature female, 40-60. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412893 ☺

COMPANY Director, mature, late 50's, seeking female, any age for mutually rewarding friendship, Kent/Surrey area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412819

PAUL 56, 6ft, med build, I'm shy and really small seeks assertive genuine lady, age unimportant. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4448741

RONALD 69, would like to meet lady to join him in dancing or learning to dance, he is slim 5ft 9, gosh, ns, Ramsgate area. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4171950

KEEN cyclist 58, non-competitive, seeks similar female for sea wall, countryside ride, walking etc for fun, laughs and whatever. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 413337 ☺

RETIRED engineer 67, likes meals out, nights in, holidays, seeking slim lady, 60-65, young at heart to wine/dine, friendship and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 413161 ☺

SOPHIE 27yr old nursing assistant with no ties looking for discreet adult fun times with tall attractive guy 35-42yrs. GSOH essential. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410717 ☺

34YR single mum of 1 who loves nights out having a good time seeks similar sociable fun guy to enjoy relaxed but extremely fun relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410709 ☺

BLONDE pretty, long legged, voluptuous, blue eyes, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410585 ☺

WOULD you like to bounce into spring with me and onwards? Widow late 60's, enjoy most things in life, looking for someone to enjoy them with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411395 ☺

LADY 60, size 12, easy going, likes animals, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411301

MARIE 37yrs slim attractive caring, likes meals in/out, cinema, tennis, keeping fit/ active, WLTm fun loving, reliable man for friendship leading to more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411037 ☺

BRIAN 70, Maidstone, seeking female, 60 plus, likes meals out, cinema, theatre, days out and cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410611 ☺

DEREK 5ft 11ins, slim-medium build, loving, caring, seeking black lady for possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410511 ☺

BROWN eyed white mature, handsome male, seeking black female, 18-50 for discreet no strings adult fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410377 ☺

DAVE 50, seeks female of similar age for meals out, holidays etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411993 ☺

BESIDE the Pointe, Literate self-possessing, legginess, kindred spirit sought by white male for elevating the bar. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 412223

45YR old male, likes poetry, seeks companion for relationship, Herne Bay area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411993 ☺

CHIPS on the pier, walks on the beach/countryside, VGSOH, 58yrs old, fit male, seeks female for laughs and love and whatever. NE Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411725 ☺

MALE 5ft 11ins, good-looking, athletic build, looking for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411477

DEREK seeking female, 50-60 for company, friendship and have fun together. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411433

MALE 49, attractive, fit, spontaneous, good company, no ties, seeking likeminded lady for the road ahead, nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411309 ☺

MALE 48, looking for fun loving female to enjoy outdoor activities, nights in and meals out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392212 ☺

41YR old male, dark hair, 5ft 11ins, easy going, likes music, guitar, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410411 ☺

WORLD war veteran seeking happy lady with nice conversation in the Kent area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411133

PAUL own business, looking for daytime fun with lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 411127 ☺

DAVE 65, retired, N/S, likes gardening, music, meals out, holidays, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410971

DAVE 62, 5ft 10ins, slim, semi-retired builder, seeks no strings discreet daytime meets for adult fun. Surrey. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410899 ☺

MALE likes outdoor life, smoker, seeking local female for cosy nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 410755 ☺

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, fun loving, independent, OH/AC, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409745 ☺

CHRIS 52, slim, looking for female, 25-38, slim, 5ft 2ins plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408575 ☺

DAVE 50, likes holidays, meals out, socialising, easy going, seeks female 40 plus. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408541

RETIRED male, seeks no strings discreet meets with slim-medium build female, any age for adult fun. Medway area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 408343

RETIRED male, 66, 6ft 2ins, easy going, GSOH, loyal, loves pets, meals out, life, seeks lady for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409621 ☺

MALE 67, professional, fit, 5ft 10ins, medium build, reliable, tactile, likes most things, seeks slim lady, let's go! Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 407855

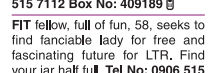
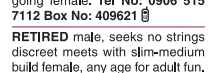
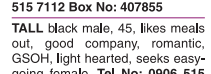
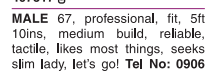
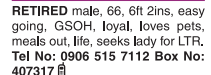
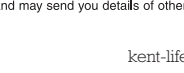
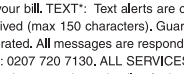
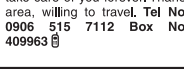
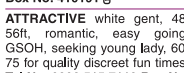
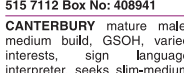
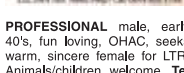
TALL black male, 45, likes meals out, good company, romantic, GSOH, light hearted, seeks easy-going female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409621 ☺

RETIRED male, seeks no strings discreet meets with slim-medium build female, any age for adult fun. Dover. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409533 ☺

MALE seeking attractive female for discreet fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409189 ☺

FIT fellow, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857

DIVORCED male, seeks Oriental lady, likes animals, music, will take care of you forever. Thanet area, willing to travel. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 409963 ☺



'Garden city' proposals bid for economics prize

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

AMBITIOUS plans for a new garden city in Medway, capable of housing up to 48,000 people, have been submitted.

The plans have been drawn up by housing charity Shelter, which is one of five finalists hoping to secure the 2014 Wolfson Economics Prize - and with it a £250,000 cash pot.

The competition asked entrants to draw up a plan for how they would deliver a new garden city which is visionary, economically viable and popular.

A shortlist was confirmed earlier this year, with Shelter joined by developers and town planners.

Prepared in collaboration with PRP Architects, with advice from KPMG LLP, Laing O'Rourke Plc and Legal & General, Shelter's entry sets out its vision for Stoke Harbour, a new garden city on the Hoo Peninsula.

Polling carried out for the submission showed that in Medway, almost 70 per cent of people think that young



GROWTH: Garden city plans

people will never be able to buy a home.

Shelter says its entry proves that politicians can put new measures in place over the next parliament to build more homes and stabilise England's rollercoaster housing market.

While their proposal is theoretical, it is intended to show that it is possible to build a garden city that will benefit

people living in the area as well as the country as a whole.

As part of the submission process, Shelter consulted people living in Medway and found that 61 per cent of people would support a garden city in their area if it resulted in improved services.

Stoke Harbour would house between 35,000 and 48,000 people, and would have the capacity for an additional 1,000 houses each year to allow it to grow.

Campbell Robb, Shelter's chief executive, said: "Creating new garden cities is an essential step towards building the homes we need. Our model proves that, with the right innovation, it is absolutely possible to build a garden city that is popular with local people, and provides the affordable homes, jobs and infrastructure that they are crying out for."

The winner will be announced on Wednesday.

Kent is no stranger to the garden city concept. It was announced in March that a garden city was planned for land near Ebbsfleet, which would provide some 15,000 new homes.

A consultation process into that proposal is currently under way.

Interviews set for director job

INTERVIEWS get under way next month for the role of community director on Dover Harbour Board, after it was confirmed that 27 'high quality' applications for the role had been received.

Short-listed candidates will be invited on September 18 and 19 to be interviewed by a panel which includes MP Charlie Elphicke and the leader of Dover District Council, Paul Watkins.

The creation of the role was announced back in May.

Former hotel building for sale

A FORMER staff accommodation block for the Spa Hotel in Tunbridge Wells goes under the auctioneer's hammer next month.

Manor Yorke, on Langton Road, is in need of modernisation but is likely to attract business interest.

It forms part of a sale by auctioneer Clive Emson at the conference centre at the Kent County Showground in Detling on September 23.

Work set to give a good impression of business quarter

PERMISSION has been granted for work to begin on the first phase of the redevelopment of the commercial quarter in Ashford - seen as an important step in reinvigorating the town's economic prosperity.

The public realm works will take place in a mixed-use development on the doorstep of the domestic and international railway stations - the area in and around International House.

Ashford council chiefs hope the quarter will stimulate major investment opportunities, creating many jobs and boasting 590,000 square feet of office space and 150 homes.

The council is working together with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and design practice BDP to develop plans to improve the environment around International House, which the council bought earlier this year, securing an additional revenue stream.

The HCA funding for the public realm works amounts to £1.45m.

A key aspect is to ensure a good first impression is given of the town.

Gerry Clarkson, leader of Ashford Borough Council, said: "The commercial quarter is one of our key priority projects and will be important in ensuring the balanced growth of our town centre."

"Its significance has already been acknowledged by central government and although outline permission for the public realm works had been granted, the approval of the detailed plans means the first phase of the development can begin to be delivered."

Naisha Polaine, head of area at the HCA, said: "We look forward to developing these exciting proposals that will assist in the transformation of the area."

Work is expected to begin in spring 2015.

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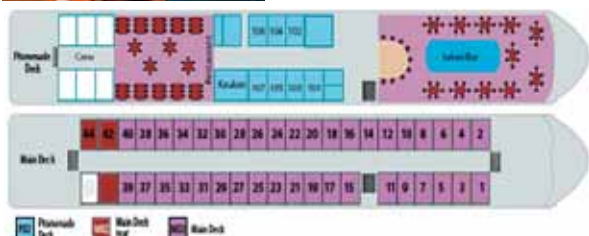
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"Everything was 1st class, would do it again."
Mr & Mrs Scott, Doncaster

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Mr & Mrs Kennedy, London

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Mrs Church, Lowestoft

"The break was excellent. The boat and crew fantastic. A1 service - would like to do it again."
Mrs Sharp, Hayes

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Over 40s Only
Entertainment

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Three cabin grades are available - main deck rear, main deck, and promenade deck - all are outside with window, two single beds, private facilities, TV, telephone and heating. All the decks - main, promenade and sundeck are accessible by stairs or stairlift. The large sundeck has chairs for all guests and a large canopy.

Semi-All-Inclusive

Almost everything on board is included: beer, wine by the glass, choice of 2 Dutch spirits and soft drinks served at lunch and dinner and from 6pm to midnight at the bar. PLUS: buffet breakfast and lunch; morning and afternoon tea/coffee and cakes; dinner served at your table and late night snacks.

Travel to the Princess

Travel is by morning Eurostar from St Pancras or Ebbsfleet to Brussels, journey time is around 2 hours. For the Rhine cruise we continue from Brussels by train to Cologne. Alternatively, flights are possible from Heathrow or Gatwick to Cologne (Rhine) or Heathrow to Brussels (Christmas time) - supplement may apply. We then take you to the Princess by coach or taxi. The journey home is just as easy.

All cruises include

- Return Eurostar rail travel from London St Pancras or Ebbsfleet, or return flights (see above)
- Semi-all-inclusive cruise on the mps Princess
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- Entertainment
- Embarkation & departure transfers

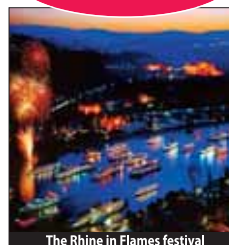
Rhine in Flames River Cruise

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This fun-packed cruise visits historic riverside towns including **Andernach**, **Rudesheim**, **Koblenz** and **Boppard**, where you'll see the Rhine in Flames festival. Originally held to celebrate the grape harvest, this spectacular pyrotechnics show features an illuminated flotilla of riverboats and curtains of fire, bathing the scene in a magical glow.

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Festive Bruges

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Update

Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV	
Price:	£28,249 (after Gov grant)
Driving appeal:	★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★★
Best rival:	Volvo XC70

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PHEV-NOMENON: Mitsubishi's Outlander Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV), above, and its ASX crossover, L200 pick-up and supermini Mirage

PHEV phenomenon drives 'Mitsi' revival

FOR years, Mitsubishi's UK sales relied on the venerable Shogun off-roader and its 'Tonka Toy' L200 pick-up – popular with private buyers as well as builders and farmers.

But a brand expansion is under way, with a big leap this year after the launch of the Outlander Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV).

So far in 2014, Mitsubishi registrations are more than 30 per cent up, but the PHEV phenomenon helped drive a surge of nearly 200 per cent last month against July last year.

Admittedly, this was from a low base – a legacy of the Shogun/L200 dependency mentioned above – and the Japanese marque still has less than half a per cent UK market share, though the signs are good.

The PHEV is something of a gamechanger; I've always said the hybrid format works better on bigger cars where the extra weight and bulk of two powertrains and a battery pack is more easily absorbed within the overall vehicle.

So, hidden beneath the chunky exterior of this third generation version of Mitsi's Outlander SUV is no less than 300bhp, comprising a 120bhp 2.0-litre petrol engine and two 80bhp electric motors, each driving a separate axle to enable the PHEV to offer 4x4 if necessary.

But don't get the idea that all this combines to endow the PHEV with

Japanese marque is trashing its typecast image as a 4x4 and pick-ups specialist and becoming more mould-breaking and technology-led, writes **Steve Loader**

phenomenal performance; the petrol unit is mainly used to charge the batteries en route to keep the car rolling in electric vehicle (EV) mode after the plug-in charge has run out.

This avoids the range anxiety of a full electric car, while fuel costs are virtually zero if you keep the car topped up with electricity.

The PHEV is also road tax exempt due to low emissions, while the entry price of just £28,249, after the £5,000 Government plug-in car grant, is the same as the Outlander diesel equivalent, making it a bargain – particularly for tax-conscious company car choosers. You start to see why Mitsubishi is on a bit of a roll.

The PHEV success is also training the spotlight on other Mitsubishi offerings – apart from the L200, which kick-started the demand for pick-ups in the UK.

The standard 147bhp 2.2-litre diesel and 4x4 Outlander is, of course, popular and good value (from £23,799) while another major star of the range is the ASX crossover.

This is a smart looking five-seat, five-door rival to the Nissan Qashqai and aggressively priced from £14,999.

It is available in front-wheel drive only with a 115bhp 1.6-litre petrol engine, as a front-wheel drive or 4x4 with a 114bhp 1.8-litre diesel, or in 4x4 only format with a 110bhp 2.2 diesel plus auto 'box.

Mitsubishi also has two small car offerings, the biggest seller of these being the Mirage supermini – good value from £8,999.

It's a budget five-door model and while it's not the most elegant, it is a slippery customer able to eke out fuel and keep emissions low.

Both the 70bhp 1.0-litre and 79bhp 1.2-litre three-cylinder petrol engines are exempt from road tax – the latter also being available with an auto 'box – and capable of nearly 70mpg on the official combined cycle.

But where the Mirage is an exercise in keeping it simple, Mitsi's other small car, the all-electric MiEV five-door city car (£23,499 with Government grant) is a technological tour de force and city slicker.

Other view...

the Petrolhead

It's like meeting an old friend after many years and finding he's gone all sensible – I miss Mitsi's Evo road-going rally car series.

She says

I admire what this PHEV aims to achieve, but I wish the donor car was more elegant and less bulky than the Outlander.

the Eco-warrior

Well done Mitsubishi. There is clever tech in this car and it's one in the eye for bigger players paying lip service to eco matters.



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PRACTICAL MOTORING: Renault's Scenic XMOD offers good handling and cabin refinement with a remarkable set of add-ons all for a reasonable price

Scenic route can be cross-country

YOU almost sensed the frustration at Renault when it rolled out the new Scenic XMOD last year.

It was the French marque's third attempt since 2000 to marry SUV and crossover appeal with its original compact MPV.

Act I in the Scenic crossover drama was the RX4 in 2000, with a proper 4x4 system courtesy of Austrian specialist Steyr Daimler Puch, but it was discontinued when Renault introduced the Mark II Scenic in 2003.

Act II was the Scenic Conquest (2007-9), but this hardly lived up to the name, being simply a front-wheel drive pseudo off-road cosmetic exercise.

Act III is the XMOD, a stylish yet sensible compromise between its two predecessors: it's front-wheel drive, but equipped with Renault's Grip Xtend traction control system, plus mud and snow tyres.

A simple rotary selector allows the driver to choose three modes: the default setting 'Road', plus 'Loose Ground' or 'Expert' if things get trickier.

This is not intended to be for off-road yomping – even the XMOD's slightly higher ground clearance won't help much there anyway – but Grip Xtend should get you along a soggy track or into work safely when it's snowy or icy.

Like another 2013 arrival, the Peugeot 2008 crossover and its front wheel Grip Control, it's a decent halfway house now that 4x4 seems like an expensive affectation – dear to buy and run, with its so-called go anywhere ability rarely needed in the real world.

The XMOD also looks more exciting than any MPV has a right to; sporting the smart front end and LED running lights of the revised Scenic line-up, it also has trendy

Third time around, Renault manages to marry MPV style with some decent SUV ability – and at keen prices – for the popular Scenic, writes **Steve Loader**



off-road add-ons: special front and rear bumpers, sill guards and chrome-finish roof bars.

The interior is well-equipped, most notably with a seven-inch touchscreen multimedia system.

The flagship Dynamique Tom Tom sat nav variant tested here also gets a GTI-style flat-bottomed steering wheel, aluminium-capped pedals and gear lever knob, and other interior upgrades.

As ever, Scenic practicality comes as standard too, with the XMOD's boot capacity being up to 555 litres with rear seats slid fully forward, rising to a whopping 1,870 with them removed completely, making its load capacity one of the biggest in class.

Renault claims a further 86 litres

of additional stowage space spread around the cabin, including two cubby holes beneath the rear floor – ideal for stowing valuables out of sight. All three rear chairs can be slid, tilted, folded or removed individually.

However, the XMOD chassis can be a bit fidgety if pushed, being a compromise between old-style French armchair comfort and a tautly sprung upright Teutonic cornering stance.

Realistically though, nobody buys an MPV to go hurtling around in, so the people carrier virtues of space and a higher driving position are your key priorities, with the XMOD's grippier tyres delivering a handling bonus.

Renault Scenic Dynamique TomTom Energy 1.5dCi 110

Price:	£21,295
Driving appeal:	★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£20/year (0 year one)
Best rival:	Peugeot 3008

Kent dealers

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With light and easy steering and controls, the XMOD is a relatively large car that's easy to pilot around too.

Cabin refinement is also excellent, with the test car's 110bhp 1.5-litre diesel delivering a good balance of power and economy – 68.9mpg is the official combined figure – with low CO2 emissions (110g/km).

What's most astonishing though is how the XMOD and all its add-ons actually costs less than a rather more staid looking standard Scenic – prices start at £18,165, against £19,360 for the normal five-seater and £20,585 for the seven-seat Grand Scenic.

I would certainly struggle with the logic of that as I selected Expert on the standard-fit Grip Xtend, while taking my new XMOD out to face the winter's first icy roads.

FirstGEAR

Motoring news



New Fabia coming

SKODA has previewed the next generation Fabia supermini ahead of its public debut at the Paris Motor Show in October and going on sale early next year.

Its lower and wider stance chimes with current Skoda practice shown by the Rapid and Octavia, though the Czech brand insists the newcomer will be as practical as before and have a bigger boot, thanks to a wider body and longer wheelbase.



Lexus' NX style?

ORDER books are open, with deliveries from October, for the all-new petrol-electric hybrid Lexus NX (from £29,495) compact crossover, aimed at rivals like the BMW X3, Audi Q5 and even Range Rover's alluring Evoque.

It's also a pivotal model for Lexus design: the car has unique and aggressive new lines cued by the gaping maw of a grille and big rear quarters, and could indicate a new direction for Toyota's premium brand.



ST to toughen up

FOUR-WHEEL drive and raised ground clearance signal a tougher stance in the SEAT Leon range as well as the Spanish marque itself, perhaps fancying a tilt at sister brand Audi's Allroad all-wheel drive estates.

Both features – plus sill and wheel arch protection mouldings – are found on the beefed up Leon X-Perience (from £24,385) based on the Leon ST estate and now available to order, with deliveries starting in December.

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By Steve Loader
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Turbocharged new car sales

With the UK now Europe's third largest car producer and as sales continue to climb, the industry has every right to feel pleased with itself, writes **Steve Loader**

NEW models and technology, attractive finance and strengthening economic confidence are all turbocharging UK car registrations.

The combination has driven industry chiefs at the SMMT (Society for Motor Manufacturers and Traders) to revise sales forecasts for 2014.

They had been expecting sales volumes to climb more than six per cent this year, but nothing like the near 11 per cent surge of 2013.

But the SMMT is now expecting more than eight per cent growth by year end.

"July saw the new car market extend its record period of growth to a 29th month, as confident consumers took advantage of an array of new products and attractive finance deals on the latest fuel-efficient new cars," said SMMT chief executive, Mike Hawes.

"The continued positivity has led to an uplift in the SMMT full year forecast to 2.45 million passenger car registrations, a rise of 8.1 per cent.

"However, the more moderate growth of the last three months shows that overall demand is beginning to stabilise."

Lest anyone think rising registrations are sucking in too many

imported cars and fuelling another classic British boom 'n' bust scenario, it is also worth noting the UK's status as a major car producer and exporter is also climbing.

Car output here rose 3.1 per cent in 2013 to exceed 1.5 million units – the highest volume since 2007 – and a record two million is expected by 2017.

The UK has also now overtaken France to become Europe's third largest car producer, after number one Germany and then Spain.

Though motorists are adopting alternative fuel cars in greater numbers, these still represent a tiny percentage of overall registrations: the real growth is from switching or downsizing to more fuel-efficient conventional cars, in partnership with lower CO2 emissions that can slash or even remove road tax.

Manufacturers have also offered low rate finance, incentives such as maintenance plans and preferential insurance, and advantageous PCP (personal contract plan) schemes that help motorists work out exactly what their monthly motoring budget will be.

And many would-be buyers have realised that buying a more frugal new car is a morale-boosting way to use savings currently earning little interest in the bank.



FUELLING SALES SURGE: Skoda's brilliant Citigo city car, Renault's chic Clio supermini, and Toyota's stylish UK-built Auris Touring Sports



DRIVING DOWN: Even a crossover like the Mitsubishi ASX or MPV like Citroën's latest C4 Picasso are much cheaper to run now, but many people just downsize to city cars such as the Hyundai i10

Saving the wallet ahead of the planet

TOUGH times mean eco cars are bought to save the wallet or purse as much, if not more, than to help save the planet.

Not only can such cars save huge fuel bills, with average consumption rates far better than might have been dreamed just 10 years ago, but they also save taxes.

Business users can gain from models with lower benefit in kind taxes, but any road user can save

with a car attracting a lower road tax.

The latest tax bandings range from zero for cars with the lowest CO2 emissions (below 100g/km) up to £475.

Even more crucially, you don't pay anything for low CO2 emitting cars in bands A-D for the first year, but the tax soars as you go up the scale so that serious gas guzzlers in the top band, M, attract £1,030 tax in year one – not for nothing is the first year

tariff otherwise known as the 'showroom tax'. Of course, anyone spending £50,000 to £100,000 on a car won't fret about such small change, but most people like saving on fuel and tax while also doing their bit for the environment.

Longer term, electric cars may be the answer and there has been much publicity about 'plug-in' models for overnight charging at home or city centre charging points.

But battery technology must catch

up and the zero emissions argument for electric is misleading; until we have zero emission power stations, electric cars simply transfer the CO2 and noxious gas output from exhaust pipe to belching chimney.

Hybrids, pairing electric power and batteries with an internal combustion engine are a good halfway house.

There are also conventional 'eco' cars, but these are not always cheap, so shop around and note that if you

don't cover enough miles to make fuel savings offset the car's purchase price, conventional alternatives may be a better bet.

Don't ignore petrol models either; concerns about the NOx [nitrogen oxide] emissions from diesels, plus the higher price of the engines upfront and the fuel at the pumps must be compared with new small capacity low emission/consumption yet lively turbocharged petrol engines.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the cars shown (excluding ZOE) are: Urban 40.4 (7)–47 (6); Extra Urban 60.1 (4.7)–64.02 (4.4); Combined 51.4 (5.5)–56.49 (5). The official CO₂ emissions are 127–115g/km. EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008 test environment figures. Fuel consumption and CO₂ may vary with driving styles, road conditions and other factors. Renault ZOE CO₂ while driving: 0, mpg: n/a.

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Offers cannot be used with other schemes or finance offers and are available on specified new vehicles when ordered and registered by 30 September 2014. Clio shown has optional metallic paint, available at an additional £595. Captur shown has optional i.d. metallic paint at £495 and painted roof at £399.



- **DON'T** accept the first deal on offer – be ready to haggle.
- **DON'T** be afraid to ask for trimmings like a tank of fuel, car mats or further discounts or extras.
- **DON'T** fall for what seems like a big bargain before you even haggle. It could be an unpopular engine or trim combination, or a car on 'run-out' where production ceased a while ago – it might be just as thirsty as your old car and depreciate badly.
- **DO** pick a model that saves fuel, insurance, road tax and depreciation – it isn't getting any easier out there.
- **DON'T** be blinded by road tax-exempt but expensive eco models though – check price, running costs, green credentials and the savings over your planned mileage versus years of ownership, then compare against

Before buying new...

the closest standard version. The overall savings on the standard car may surprise you.

- **DON'T** assume a diesel will save – you usually pay more upfront than a petrol model, so you need to cover more miles to claw that money back in fuel economy. And the engines are generally heavier,

which means more wear on front tyres and mechanicals. The fuel is also dearer at the pumps, while economy and emissions on small petrol cars have improved and they are often nicer to drive. In short – do your sums.

- **DO** make the most of your part exchange – assuming you are not trading in a banger that the dealer will simply pack off to the nearest auction, it pays to make the most of your old car. Give it a clean and polish and replace any obvious missing items such as a wheel cover or badge; don't give the salesman an excuse to mark its value down. And make sure all the paperwork and history is neatly packaged up to go with the car. In short – be critical of your old motor and put right what you can without spending lots of money.

CHOOSE YOUR MODEL: Whether it's the advanced Lexus CH200h executive hybrid, left, Renault's Megane Coupé or the elegant Hyundai i40 Tourer, check you are getting the best version for your needs... and pocket

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Model shown is MY15 Yaris Sport 1.33 VVT-i 5 door manual £14,995. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions. Price correct at time of going to press. *Range from price is calculated by deducting a £1,000 customer saving from the list price of Yaris Active 3dr. £1,000 customer saving available on new retail sales of Yaris Active when ordered between 1st July and 30th September and registered by 31st December 2014. †4.9% APR Representative and £500 Finance Deposit Allowance available on new retail orders of MY15 Yaris (Excluding Active) when ordered between 1st July and 30th September 2014 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services by 31st December 2014 on a 3 year AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0-35% deposit. Toyota Financial Services (UK) PLC, registered office Great Burgh, Burch Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Excess miles over 30,000 charged at 8p per mile. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and conditions apply. Affordable finance through AccessToyota. 1 year's free comprehensive insurance offer is subject to purchase being made via Toyota Financial Services on a Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) only and is available on MY15 Yaris models (Excluding Active grade) when ordered and financed between 1st July 2014 and 30th September 2014. Vehicles must be registered by 31st December 2014. All drivers must be aged 21 years and over. Offer is limited to the insured plus up to four additional drivers. The insured and all drivers must have held a full UK driving licence for a minimum of 2 years and had no more than 1 fault claim in the last 3 years. Offer only available to customers with no more than 1 minor motoring conviction in the last 3 years. Standard Toyota Motor Insurance Terms & Conditions apply (available on request) – these will be confirmed in the policy document.

Yaris Sport 1.33 VVT-i 5 door manual. Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 43.5 (6.5), Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3), Combined 55.4 (5.1). CO₂ Emissions 119g/km. The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results. These are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

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Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only.



DOWNSIER FAVOURITES: The Fiat 500, below, oozes retro charm while Alfa Romeo's MiTo, left, stands apart from the supermini crowd and the tall body of the Honda Jazz is more like an MPV

BRITISH car buyers have learned to love small cars. For years, the family car dominated sales, then we downshifted to family hatchbacks and now superminis rule. The trend has been driven by soaring fuel and insurance costs, greater environmental awareness, punitive road tax on larger cars, and ever more stylish small cars. The supermini and even smaller city car now have a 40 per cent share of new car sales, followed by family hatchbacks with around 25

Superminis rule OK in UK

per cent of registrations. It might not be long though before family hatchbacks are under threat too from the new kid on the block, the crossover. As the name implies, this straddles several sectors by being part family hatch, part



MPV (multi-purpose vehicle) or people carrier, and part SUV (sports utility vehicle) and is highlighted by cars like the Hyundai iX35 and the Renault Captur. Nobody is saying this burgeoning sector will catch the supermini/city

car though, which packs so much into a small package. Even the commonality of the two-box shape – dictated by the need for compact on-road dimensions – can now be addressed by ever more imaginative customization: perhaps a roof in a different colour, pattern or decal; special wheels or bespoke door mirrors; or a wild paint job. The fact is, superminis often look alike, but they don't have to, as proved by the personalisation of key models like the Fiat 500 and Citroën DS3.

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41 monthly payments	£329.00	Finance Deposit Allowance	£1,000.00
Cash price	£30,605.00	Total amount payable	£34,049.33
Customer deposit	£7,657.83	Fixed rate of interest (per annum)	3.05%
Amount of credit	£21,947.17	Representative	5.9%

IS



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*5.9% APR Representative and £1000 finance deposit allowance available over 42 months on a Lexus Connect (PCP) scheme with 0%-35% deposit and Guaranteed Future Value/Optional Final Payment. Only on new retail sales of IS when ordered and proposed for finance between 1 July 2014 and 30 September 2014, registered and financed by 31 December 2014 through Lexus Financial Services at participating Lexus Centres. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Terms and conditions apply. Excess mileage charge applies over 35,000 miles at 12 pence per mile. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Lexus Centre are independent of Lexus Financial Services. Lexus Financial Services is a trading name of Toyota Financial Services (UK) PLC. Registered Office: Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, KT18 5UZ. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

IS Series fuel consumption and CO₂ figures: Urban 22.8 – 64.2 (12.4 – 4.4 l/100km), extra-urban 38.7 – 62.8 (7.3 – 4.5 l/100km), combined 30.7 – 65.7 (9.2 – 4.3 l/100km). CO₂ emissions 99 – 213 g/km.

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†Warranty applies to new vehicles up to a period of 4 years or 100,000 miles, whichever comes first (first 2 years unlimited mileage). Renault Assistance Roadside Cover is provided by our approved roadside assistance partners. Cover from months 0 to 36 (3+35) includes assistance at the roadside and home, national recovery, onward travel and European cover. Cover from months 37 to 48 includes Roadside and Homestart (including a local tow to an authorised Renault dealer).

**EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008 test environment figures. Fuel consumption and CO₂ may vary according to driving style, road conditions and other factors.



Power to the people carrier

SUPERMINIS rule the UK motor market, but they cannot conquer the hearts and minds of people who simply need room for the family or major load space.

These are the buyers who have made MPVs (multipurpose vehicles), SUVs (sports utility vehicles) and crossovers into powerful sectors of the overall market.

Renault started the MPV thing and its Scenic is one of the best-known models, available with five or seven seats and now also including the rugged XMOD variant with special

traction control on its front wheels.

Another comprehensive MPV brand is Vauxhall. Its line-up starts with the supermini-size Agila and steps up to the Meriva, which has rearward opening back doors for easy access.

Then come the Zafira sisters: the original being joined by the even roomier and more upmarket Zafira Tourer – but both have the brand's trademark fold flat Flex7 rear seats.

One of the Vauxhall's fiercest rivals, however, is the Toyota Verso. The new generation model is sharply

styled for such a space-efficient car.

Korean sister brands Kia and Hyundai have also leapt into contention in this sector with their Sportage and ix35 SUV-cum-crossover models respectively, with Kia recently adding its classy new generation Carens MPV.

When choosing your MPV, look for versatility by checking if the rear seats are easy to move and fold individually; whether they fold flat for a clear load space; and also whether the two rearmost seats in a seven-seater model are easy to access.



SHORT FOR VERSATILITY: Vauxhall's Zafira Tourer, top left, the good-looking five or seven-seat Kia Carens and Toyota's seven-seat Verso, above

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Fuel consumption MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.2 (11.2) - 70.6 (4.0), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) - 83.1 (3.4), Combined 32.1 (8.8) - 76.3 (3.7), CO2 Emissions 231 - 96 g/km. Fuel consumption: figures shown are based on official EU test figures. These are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect all driving results.

You will own the vehicle when all payments are made, 15.9% APR Conditional Sale available on all models shown with a minimum 50% Deposit required. Models shown: i10 SE 1.0 at £9,610 OTR in solid paint, £4,966 Deposit required for £99 Monthly payment x 36, i20 Style 1.2 5dr at £13,075 OTR including metallic paint, £6,991 Deposit required for £119 Monthly payment x 36 and i30 Classic 1.4 5dr at £15,210 OTR in solid paint, £8,046 Deposit required for £159 Monthly payment x 36. All offers and savings are subject to availability and are only available to private retail customers on new cars purchased and registered in the UK (excluding Channel Islands or Isle of Man), between 1st July and 30th September 2014, inclusive, sourced through Hyundai Motor UK Ltd or its authorised dealers. Terms and Conditions apply. Finance subject to status. Customer must be 18 or over. Guarantees/Indemnities may be required. Hyundai Motor Finance RH1 1SR. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. *5 Year Warranty terms and exclusions apply. Please see www.hyundai.co.uk or ask your local Dealer.



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Motorline ŠKODA Dartford

555 Princes Road, Dartford,
Kent DA2 6HH

☎ **0843 658 2618**

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Motorline ŠKODA Medway

26 Hoath Lane, Wigmore
Gillingham, Kent ME8 0SW

☎ **0843 658 9764**

🌐 www.motorline.co.uk/skoda

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA range: Urban 21.7 (13.0) to 74.3 (3.8), Extra Urban 40.4 (7.0) to 94.2 (3.0), Combined 30.4 (9.3) to 88.3 (3.2). CO₂ emissions for the ŠKODA range 217 to 85g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.



BIG TEST: Volvo V40 in Cross Country spec and Citroën's classy little DS3

You must take a test drive

By Steve Loader

ROAD test articles should be fairly objective – it's what we aim for in our own Kent on Sunday Driving section.

But they can only ever give you a snapshot or a pointer to your next car, so the test drive is crucial. Here are some tips:

BOOK EARLY: New registration is a busy time for dealers and this is a big purchase, so map out a 'test drive campaign' where you drive your chosen candidates soon after one another to allow more accurate comparisons.

You are helped here by many dealers choosing 'motor city' sites like Broad Oak at Canterbury, Ashford's Orbital Park and Dowding Way in Tunbridge Wells – you can get from one dealer to another quickly – but don't leave bookings to the last minute.

DON'T BE HURRIED: So, it is a busy period, but insist you get enough time with the car to drive it in all situations: in town traffic, on the motorway – or some high-speed cruising at least – and on less well-maintained rural roads.

An hour should be sufficient, as

long as you avoid getting stuck in a rush-hour jam.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

If you do get an hour and experience of different road surfaces, you will get a better idea of seat and ride comfort, how refined it is in terms of engine, wind, tyre and mechanical noise, and especially...

DO YOU LIKE THE CONTROLS?

A decade ago, these were pretty standard and it was easy to switch from one car to another and quickly find your way around the dashboard.

Ironically, many carmakers are now going their own way in search of the best ergonomics or human interaction with the controls, but they don't suit everyone. Just one bone of contention is the modern electronic handbrake and the many different installations by different brands.

IS IT THE RIGHT SPEC? Try to get a test car as close to the one you are interested in, even if you have to wait a few days for the dealer to arrange it or have to go to another dealership.

Chances are the dealer will have a higher spec model than the one you want. It's then easier to be seduced by the car, although this can

backfire if it is one fitted with larger wheels – these may look better but can affect ride comfort.

MAKE IT A FAMILY OUTING: It can be a painful process of 'are we there yet?' proportions, but try to get as many of the would-be car users involved in the test drive – drivers and non-drivers.

The sort of issues here are: yes, it's great for those in the front but what about comfort and visibility in the back? There are three seat belts, but is there really room for three across the back seat, especially if one place has to take a strap-in child seat or booster as well? Can I lift shopping in and out of the boot easily or indeed, is there much of a boot?

DON'T BE RUSHED: Whether you have one candidate or several cars to check out, don't sit down and sign on the dotted line unless you are 100 per cent sure the car's right for you. Chances are that it won't be – or for your finances perhaps.

So you need to go away and consider options and choices; maybe leave the salesman with a reason to be cheerful by asking whether it would be okay to come back later for another test drive. If the reaction is not good then you've learned something there too!

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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic 1.6 i-DTEC Black Special Edition in mpg (l/100km): Urban 70.6 (4.0), Extra Urban 85.6 (3.3), Combined 78.5 (3.6). CO₂ emissions: 94 g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: Civic 1.6 i-DTEC Black Special Edition in Crystal Black Pearl at £22,440 On the Road (OTR). **Terms and Conditions:** New retail Civic registered from 1 July 2014 to 30 September 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Civic Black Special Edition Honda Aspirations (PCP):** Example shown based on Civic 1.6 i-DTEC Black Special Edition in Crystal Black Pearl at £22,440 total cash price (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £0 (0% deposit), £408.29 monthly payment, Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £7,761.73 annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 6p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due. The vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Interim fees may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc, 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY, Honda Finance Europe Plc. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312341. **The 5 Year Care Package includes:** Servicing: All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicle's service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. **Warranty:** In addition to the standard 3 year warranty the customer will receive a complimentary 2 year extended guarantee taking the warranty to 5 years or 100,000 miles, whichever comes first. **Roadside Assist:** In addition to the standard 3 years roadside assistance package the customer will receive complimentary HondaCare Assistance for a further 2 years, taking it to 5 years or 100,000 miles, whichever comes first. **The 5 Year Care Package:** The 5 Year Care Package is optional. It is being offered for £555 including VAT (usual value £1,845 including VAT, resulting in a £1,290 saving for the customer) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.



WHICH HORSE IS RIGHT FOR YOUR COURSE? Clockwise from top left: Honda's CR-V SUV, the Renault Captur crossover, the Lexus IS300h executive hybrid and Skoda's Octavia Greenline



New Hyundai i10

They say happiness is infectious. If it is, the combination of stunning good looks, great customer reviews and our reassuring 5 Year Unlimited Mileage Warranty make the New Generation i10 highly contagious. Visit hyundai.co.uk now and get ready for happy.

Personal Contract Purchase Representative Example – i10 S 1.0

24 Monthly Payments Of	£99	Interest Charges	£645.61	Representative APR %	5.9%
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Cash Price of Vehicle	£9,090	Optional Final Payment	£4,522.50	Excess Mileage Charge Per Mile	14.9p
Total Amount of Credit	£6,252.89	Duration of Agreement	24 months	Annual Mileage	10,000

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Motorline Hyundai – Canterbury 01227 817555 Units 2b & 2c, Westminster Road, Canterbury CT1 1YY
Motorline Hyundai – Maidstone 01622 624070 Bircholt Road, Parkwood, Maidstone ME15 9YN



Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for New Generation i10 range: Urban 35.3 (8.0) – 55.4 (5.1), Extra Urban 55.4 (5.1) – 76.3 (3.7), Combined 45.6 (6.2) – 65.7 (4.3), CO2 Emissions 142 – 98 g/km. Fuel consumption figures shown are based on official EU test figures. These are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect a ll driving results.

Model shown: i10 S 1.0 at £9,090 OTR including Sleek Silver metallic paint at £495. On the road prices show VAT where applicable, delivery, vehicle first registration fee, number plates and 12 months' Road Fund Licence. You will own the vehicle once all repayments are made. At the end of the Personal Contract Purchase there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle; (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Terms and Conditions apply. Finance subject to status. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantees/Indemnities may be required. Hyundai Motor Finance RHI 1SR. Offer not available for customers under the Hyundai Affinity Programme. 5 Year Unlimited Mileage Warranty: terms and exclusions apply. Visit www.hyundai.co.uk/owning or ask your local Dealer.



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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

PLANNING

NOTICE OF INTENDED LAND DISPOSAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SECTION 123 (2A)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council intends to dispose of the freehold interest in four areas of land, which are for identification purposes are described in the schedule to this notice.

This notice is given in so far as the areas of land consist of or form part of an open space within the meaning of the above Section.

Plans of the land are available to view at the Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2AB or at the Weald Information Centre, The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook TN17 3HF.

Objections to the proposed disposals must be made in writing to the Legal Services Manager, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS by no later than 5th September 2014.

SCHEDULE

Land adjacent to 21 Dale Street, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (approximately 0.012 hectares)

Land adjacent to 1 Harries Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (approximately 0.019 hectares)

Land on the west side of Quarry Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (approximately 0.009 hectares)

Land at Aspen Way, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (approximately 0.002 hectares)

John Scarborough,
Head of Legal Services

Dated 18 August 2014



AUCTION SALE 11th September 2014

By order of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Site at Quarry Road, TN1 – site of approx. 0.021 acres (Guide £10,000)

Land at Harries Road, TN2 – land of approx. 0.047 acres (Guide £3,000)

Land at Dale Street/Albert St, TN1 – land of approx. 0.031 acres (Guide £10,000)

Land at Aspen Way, TN4 – land of approx. 0.004 acres (Guide £1,500)

Please call 0208 741 8088
www.barnardmarcusauctions.co.uk



LICENSING ACT 2003: Application for Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that The Ballroom Ltd has applied to Canterbury City Council for the GRANT of a Premises Licence to operate the following Regulated Activities: Plays, films, live and recorded music, the performance of dance and the supply of alcohol on the premises only between 09.00 and 01.00hrs every day and Late Night Refreshment between 23.00 and 01.30hrs every day with one extra hour for all Regulated Activities at the end of the day on the Sunday of the Easter Bank Holiday, the two May Bank Holidays and the August Bank Holiday. Also, one extra hour at the end of the day on Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and to celebrate St. George's, St. Andrew's, St. David's, St. Patrick's, St. Valentine's, Halloween and Guy Fawkes. On New Year's Eve: to continue from the end of trading until the beginning of trading on New Year's Day; all at the following premises: The Ballroom, 15 Orange Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2JA.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW tel. 01227 862000 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday. Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 19/09/2014. The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that their identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Sub Committee and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the protection of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

LICENSING ACT 2003 PREMISES LICENCE VARIATION.

Notice is hereby given that Yoshit Patel has applied to Tunbridge and Malling Borough Council for the variation of a Premises Licence for Sweet Stop, 2 Quarry Hill Parade, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2HR to vary the sale by retail of alcohol for consumption off the premises only to 05:00hours to 24:00hours Monday to Sunday AND TO VARY LAY-OUT AS PER APPLICATION

Any person wishing to view details of the variation can contact the licensing team on 01732 876388.

Any person or responsible authority wishing to make representation about the proposals should make them in writing to: Licensing Service, Tunbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ. Email: licensing.services@tmbc.gov.uk giving in detail the grounds of objection by 16th September 2014

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary of conviction for the offence is £5000.

LICENSING ACT 2003: Application for Premises Licence

Mr Shane Jarvis has made an application in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 for a premises licence for Mockbeggar Farm Shop, Town Road, Cliffe Woods, Rochester ME3 8EU. The application is for the Sale of Alcohol (Monday to Sunday 09:30 – 22:30), and Recorded Music (Monday to Sunday 09:30 – 17:00). This application has been made to Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR. Full details of the application and plans can be viewed at Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham Kent, ME4 4TR during normal hours of business.

Any interested party who wishes to make a representation about this application should do so in writing to Medway Council or by email to licensing@medway.gov.uk no later than September 30, 2014.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application which, upon conviction, carries a maximum fine of £5,000.

LICENSING ACT 2003: Application for Premises Licence

An applicant has been made by the Halpern Charitable Foundation for the premises: Nucleus Arts Riverside Hub, 13 Military Rd, Chatham, ME4 4JG On the date of 18th August 2014. The application is for the Sale of Alcohol and the showing of Films, during the hours of 7:00 to 23:00 every day. With an additional late night opening on New Years Eve until 02:00 Any person wishing to view the details of the application may contact Medway Council Licensing Unit on 01634 337107 or 337108.

Any person wishing to make a representation about the application should make them in writing on or before the 15th September 2014: Licensing Unit, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR licensing@medway.gov.uk

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THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y14/0937/SH - Little Droveaway Droveaway Stelling Minnis Canterbury Kent - Change of use of private stables and stud yard to a quarantine/isolation yard for exporting horses.

Y14/0906/SH# - Dungeness B Power Station Dungeness Road Lydd Romney Marsh Kent - Works to enhance the resilience of the existing shingle ridge to the south of Dungeness B Nuclear Power Station, by placing rock armour between the Station's rear retaining wall at the south of the Station and the landward crest of the existing shingle ridge and extending across the whole frontage of the Dungeness B Nuclear Power Station and 25m beyond to the west.

Y14/0885/SH# - 4 & 6 Douglas Avenue Hythe Kent CT21 5JT - Erection of linked single storey rear extension to both properties, following removal of existing conservatory to No.6.

Y14/0781/SH# - Hazeldene Cottage George Lane New Romney Kent TN28 8BS - Erection of a section of replacement wall/fence.

Y14/0789/SH - Communications Mast Crete Road East Folkestone Kent - Installation of 2 no. dipole antennas, a 1.8m diameter satellite dish and development ancillary thereto (Telecommunications development).

Y14/0926/SH# - The Seahorse 109 - 111 Coast Drive Greatstone New Romney Kent - Change of use and conversion of public house to a residential dwelling house.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

† - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

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Gemili set to sit out rest of year as focus turns to Beijing in 2015

SPRINTER Adam Gemili hinted he may sit out the rest of the season after a return to action in the Diamond League meeting in Zurich on Thursday night.

The 20-year-old, from Dartford, finished fifth in a highly competitive field in the 100m which also featured the likes of the returning former world record holder Asafa Powell and former world champion Tyson Gay.

Superstar Usain Bolt pulled out of the race last weekend.

Gemili finished strongly but never looked like he was going to win a tough race just two weeks after his heroics, at the same venue, in the European Championships which boosted his confidence levels.

Racing in lane eight, he recorded a time of 10.13 seconds. Winner Kemar Bailey-Cole put in a season's best 9.96 seconds. Fellow Brit and Gemili's training partner, James Dasoalu, finished third.

Speaking after the race finished, Gemili admitted he was feeling the strain of a gruelling season.

He said: "It was OK but coming off the back of two championships it was tough. Finishing fifth was good but for me for this year, I think I may have to call it a day."

Bolt has already made a similar decision, after a season dogged with injury.

It's certainly been a fruitful season for Gemili.

At the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow he secured a silver in the 100m before heading to the European Championship and walking off with an impressive gold medal in the 200m - his first senior title.

That victory once again prompted commentators to urge the former budding footballer, who emerged on the scene just ahead of the London 2012 Olympic Games, to suggest he focus on the longer distance.

He added to his medal haul at the same championships by being part of the gold-winning 4x100m Great Britain men's relay team.

By taking the rest of the season off to re-charge his batteries, the sprinter will now look to fully focus on two key upcoming events.

In almost exactly a year's time, Beijing in China will host the IAAF World Championships, where Gemili will relish another opportunity to dazzle on the world stage.

After that, all eyes will turn to Rio and the Olympic Games of 2016.

After stepping up from the junior to senior level for London 2012 - and reaching the men's 100m final - the expectation will weigh heavily on the Kent star to deliver on that early promise.



FIFTH: The Dartford star returned to the track at Zurich on Thursday

Picture: DECA TEXT&BUILD

Sport Shorts

Gills seek to paint better cup luck

GILLINGHAM return to cup action on Tuesday - looking to put the disappointment of this week's League Cup exit behind them - as they travel to face Stevanage in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy.

The Gills welcomed Premier League giants Newcastle United to Priestfield last Tuesday for a second round Capital One Cup clash. But despite a brave battle, they were undone by an own goal, losing 1-0.

Glamorgan head to St Lawrence

AFTER the drama of the Royal London One-Day Cup quarter-final against Gloucestershire on Friday, Kent return to County Championship action today.

The county side host Glamorgan at the St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury in Division Two of the Championship.

Kent currently sit fifth in the table, Glamorgan eighth, kept off the bottom only by win-less Leicestershire.

Fleet investigate 'racism' allegation

EBBSFLEET United have begun an investigation into claims a fan made racist comments following last Saturday's away game against Whitehawk.

The club received a written allegation from a Whitehawk supporter and have appealed for any witnesses to the incident to come forward and get in touch. A spokesman said: "The club does not tolerate any racism or discrimination."

Chance to team up with Holcombe

NATIONAL League hockey outfit Holcombe stages its annual club day next weekend - giving new players across the age groups the chance to join up.

The event begins at 10am with registration next Saturday at the club ground near Rochester and continues until 5pm.

It will cost £5 for adults and £3 for juniors, with a tournament staged and barbecue.

Owens eyes final flourish to season

PEMBURY racer Raoul Owens jetted out to the Czech Republic for this weekend's penultimate Formula Renault 2.0 Northern European Cup meeting triple-header.

The 19-year-old will be hoping the two races today - following Saturday's opener - will allow him to finish with a flourish in the highly competitive series. He admits this season has been frustrating leaving him off the championship pace.

Shakey ready for final Showdown as testing time reveals he's setting pace in title race

SHEPPEY speed demon Shane 'Shakey' Byrne is aiming to enter the final 'Showdown' stage of the British Superbike Championship in top form after midweek testing again underlined him as the racer to beat.

Currently leading the rankings in the main season races, the championship divides after next weekend's race at Donington Park with the final three races pitting the title chasers against each other in what's known as the Showdown.

Byrne, racing for the Rapid Solicitors Kawasaki team, delivered two podium finishes last weekend at Cadwell Park in Lincolnshire, then followed that up by topping the pre-Showdown test at the Dutch circuit Assen. It hosts the first Showdown race on September 21.

In what was a key psychological victory, he edged out title rival Josh Brookes in the test. The Milwaukee Yamaha racer currently trails Byrne by a little under 100 points.

Speaking after the test, Byrne said: "Wednesday was the sort of day that

we have needed for a while and we have boxed-off the majority of our preparations ahead of the Showdown.

"The sizeable changes we did make weren't the sort of thing you could just bolt in and expect to go quicker, so we have gained valuable experience that we hopefully can put to good use over the coming rounds."

The triple British Superbike champion, runner-up in last year's competition, is keen to ensure he secures a fourth crown in 2014.

He did his efforts no harm over the bank holiday weekend when, on a wet Cadwell Park he secured two second place finishes. With podium finishes adding to the final points tally, it helped swell confidence levels.

His weekend was not without incident, however.

During the final free practice session he slid off, before securing pole position by breaking the circuit's lap record. But the first race was ended by the red flag following heavy rain, with Byrne neck-a-neck with Tommy Bridewell.

Byrne said: "I was a bit annoyed with the result in the first race and it was a tough one to take. I led every lap of the race and whenever anyone overtook me, I was able to get back past them straightaway."

"Conditions were even more difficult for the second race and it was probably the longest 15 laps I've ever had. Second was a really good finish so I'm happy."

He was pipped in that race by Peter Hickman.

Paul Bird, team owner of the Rapid Solicitors Kawasaki team, said on Monday: "It was a great day for Shakey who claimed more podium points and increased the lead over his rivals. His consistency this year has been amazing and he rode two brilliant races in difficult conditions by using his head."

After eight rounds, the championship table sees Byrne leading Josh Brookes by 96 points, increasing his important podium credits tally to 56, a lead of 21 going into the next round at Donington Park.



Picture: JONISSOP PHOTOGRAPHY

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